REGULATIONS SUMMARY | 2016–2017

Yukon Hunting

www.env.gov.yk.ca

Map shows Game Management Subzones and First Nation Category A settlement lands. Environment Yukon sells detailed topographic maps at 10 Burns Road, Whitehorse

Yukon
Environment

Minister's Message

Hunting is an essential part of many Yukoners' lives, mine included. As residents of this territory, we have a unique ability to participate in hunting opportunities that contribute to making Yukon the best place to live, work and play. This summary serves as your guide to the hunting regulations and provides advice for having a safe, respectful and enjoyable hunting experience.

This season, the Department of Environment improved the process of issuing special guide licences to Yukoners who want to bring friends and relatives from outside the territory on a hunting trip. Now, licences are awarded through a lottery system, giving more Yukoners a chance to take advantage of applying for this opportunity. The number of special guide licences has also increased by including special guiding for bison.

In keeping with improving accessibility to hunting for Yukoners, these changes improve the special guide licensing process. You'll find out more about these changes and others by reviewing this booklet.

Accessibility is also front-and-centre with efforts to add online hunting licences to the Department of Environment's eServices for future hunting seasons. EServices currently offers online fishing licences and camping permits.

The Department of Environment works collaboratively with Renewable Resources Councils, First Nations, the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board, the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) and the Yukon public to inform the decisions we make on Yukon's hunting regulations.

To see further regulation changes as they come and keep up with hunting-related news, visit the Department of Environment website (www.env.gov.yk.ca), subscribe to the monthly e-newsletter, and follow the Conservation Officer Services Facebook page (www.facebook.com/yukoncoservices).

Happy hunting,

Wade Istchenko
Minister of Environment

Cover photo: Kathy Pritchard special guides 14-year-old Dawsyn Remillard on her first moose hunt, by Collin Remillard.

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Hunting Regulations Summary 2016-17

This regulations summary is in effect August 1, 2016 through July 31, 2017.

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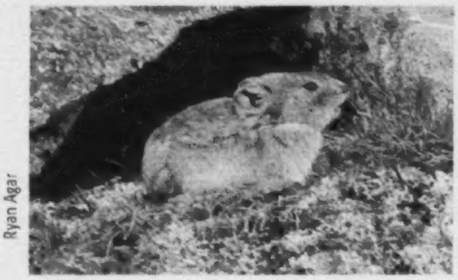
Important Changes for 2016-17

- Special guide licences are now issued through a weighted lottery process. One hundred special guide licences will be allocated for moose/caribou opportunities and 25 for bison. **See page 12**.
- The allowable harvest for the Faro threshold hunt (Game Management Subzones 4-44, 4-45 and 4-46) is now 15 moose. **See page 37**.
- The use of motorized vehicles is now permitted for explicit retrieval and transport of harvested bison within the three-kilometer zone adjacent to the Alaska Highway in Game Management Subzone 5-38. **See page 67**.

! Report Collared Pika Sightings


Ryan Agar

Environment Yukon requests hunters report sightings of Collared Pika, assessed as a species of Special Concern by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC). Please report your observations to the Yukon Conservation Data Centre by phone at 867-667-5331, 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5331 toll free or email randi.mulder@gov.yk.ca.

? A Message from Yukon's Conservation Officers

Set a good example for others by hunting safely, ethically and responsibly. Do not litter or waste meat; wasting meat is unethical and a violation of the Wildlife Act. *Report any violations to the Turn in Poachers and Polluters (TIPP) line (1-800-661-0525) or online at* www.env.gov.yk.ca/tipp.

! Not a Legal Document

This booklet provides a summary of the current hunting regulations. It is your responsibility to know and obey the laws. If you are uncertain about a regulation, talk to your local Conservation Officer.

Copies of the *Wildlife Act* and regulations (which are the legal documents) are available at a cost of $5 from the Inquiry Centre in the main Yukon government administration building in Whitehorse. Phone 867-667-5811. Outside Whitehorse call 1-800-661-0408 toll free. Or you can download them from: www.gov.yk.ca/legislation.

First You Need a Hunting Licence

You must have a valid hunting licence to hunt in Yukon. The current licence year runs from April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017.

$ Big Game & Small Game Licence Fees (GST EXTRA)

Yukon resident	$10
Non-resident Canadian	$75
Non-resident alien	$150
Trapping concession holder	$5
First Nation person or Inuk*	Free
Yukon resident 65 or older	Free

$ Small Game Only Licence Fees (GST EXTRA)

Yukon resident	$5
Non-resident (Canadian or alien)	$20
Yukon resident 65 or older	Free

* Defined to mean:

a. Members of Yukon First Nations with and without Final Agreements, Porcupine Caribou Native User Groups, Inuvialuit under the *Inuvialuit Final Agreement* and the Tetlit Gwich'in.

b. Aboriginals/Indians under the *Indian Act* and Inuit from other parts of Canada.

When obtaining a licence, you will need to bring an identification card issued under the *Indian Act* or proof of enrollment under a Yukon Final Agreement, the *Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement* or the *Inuvialuit Final Agreement* to have the fee waived. Yukon First Nation citizens who were 55 years or older on the effective date of their Final Agreement do not need to show proof of enrollment.

See Schedule E of the *Wildlife Act* for further details.

Hunting Licence Purchase Locations

- Any Environment Yukon office (see **page 90** for contact information).

If you had a resident hunting licence in the previous year, you may also obtain your licence through:

- Territorial Agents in communities outside Whitehorse (visit www.env.gov.yk.ca/vendors for a complete listing),
- select sporting goods stores, or
- the Yukon Fish and Game Association.

You may obtain only one hunting licence of the same type during any licensing year unless your licence is lost or destroyed. See **page 5**.

A Yukon Resident Is:

A Canadian citizen or permanent resident whose primary residence has been in Yukon for at least 12 months before applying for a licence, and who has been physically present in Yukon for at least 185 days during that period.

If you are applying for a Yukon resident licence for the first time, or if you did not obtain a licence in the previous year, you must complete a **Statutory Declaration** in person at an Environment Yukon office. Please bring your Yukon driver's licence as proof of residency.

A **Residency Exemption** declaration form is available at Environment Yukon offices for residents who maintain their primary residence here, but who must leave the territory for work, education or medical reasons.

Resident Hunters Born After April 1, 1987

All resident hunters born after April 1, 1987 are required to have successfully completed a recognized hunter education program before they become eligible for a big game or small game hunting licence, unless they held a licence the previous year. Hunters are able to meet this requirement by showing proof of completing the Yukon Hunter Education and Ethics Development course, or proof of government-approved hunter education from any jurisdiction in Canada or the United States.

! HEED: Learn Your Hunting Skills the Right Way

Sign up for the free Hunter Education and Ethics Development (HEED) course. Topics include outdoor ethics, field techniques, wildlife management, wildlife identification, outdoor preparedness, firearms safety and hunting regulations.

Anyone born after April 1, 1987 must successfully complete the course before being issued a hunting licence.

The majority of the HEED course can now be taken online. Complete 8-10 hours of coursework on the internet, register for a four hour classroom session and successfully complete a short exam to get your certification.

Separate workshops focused on individual big game species are also offered in advance of the hunting season. These workshops provide hunting tips as well as information about identification, meat care, ethics and regulations.

For more information, call the Hunter Education Coordinator at 867-667-5617 in Whitehorse, or toll free at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5617 outside of Whitehorse.

Visit www.env.gov.yk.ca/heed for additional information about completing a HEED course and other workshops.

Holding Resident Hunting Licences in Two Jurisdictions

It is unlawful to apply for or obtain a Yukon resident hunting licence if you hold a valid resident hunting licence in another jurisdiction.

Carrying and Producing Your Licence and Seals

You must sign and carry your hunting licence along with all your big game seals when hunting. You must produce your licence, seals and permit(s) whenever you are asked to do so by a Conservation Officer or RCMP Officer.

Loan or Transfer of Licences

It is unlawful to possess or to use another person's licence, seal or permit or to allow another person to possess or use yours. An exception is made for young hunters age 12 and 13 using the big game seals and Permit Hunt Authorization of an accompanying adult 19 years of age or older.

Big Game Seals

Before you hunt, you must first obtain a big game seal for each animal you plan to hunt. You will need to produce your hunting licence when obtaining big game seals. You must be at least 14 years of age to obtain a big game seal.

- Big game seals are provided free of charge to First Nation citizens and Yukon residents 65 years of age or older.
- Big game seals are not required for coyote, wolverine or wolf; however, the pelt of every harvested wolf and wolverine must be sealed with a metal furbearer seal. See **page 59**.

$ Big Game Seal Fees (GST EXTRA)

Moose	$5	Goat	$10	Bison	$10
Caribou	$5	Deer	$50	Grizzly Bear	$25
Sheep	$10	Elk	$10	Black Bear	$5

Cancelling Seals

When you kill a big game animal, you must immediately cancel the seal by cutting out the triangular tabs that indicate the date of harvest, the sex of the animal, and the Zone in which it was taken. You must then attach the seal to a recognizable part of the animal and leave it attached until the wildlife has been taken to the residence where the person who killed it normally resides, or after the wildlife has been inspected by a Conservation Officer or wildlife technician and a kill report has been completed for the harvest. A field inspection is not a replacement for a kill report.

Someone else may transport the meat without your presence if you complete the declaration on the reverse side of the seal. The cancelled seal or a letter of permission from the seal holder must be in the transporter's immediate possession, and the transporter should be prepared to show identification when asked by a Conservation Officer. Your hunting licence number will also be required if the individual is transporting the meat to a butcher.

Lost Licences and Seals

If your licence or seals are lost or destroyed, you must replace them before you hunt again. To replace them, you must fill out an affidavit and pay a **$2 fee** for each licence or seal. Affidavits can be obtained at Environment Yukon offices.

Licences and Seals

Young Hunters

- It is unlawful for a parent or guardian to allow youth under the age of 16 to hunt without being accompanied by a person 19 years of age or older who holds a valid Yukon hunting licence or who is a licensed guide with a licensed Yukon outfitter.
- Young hunters must be at least 12 years of age to be eligible for a big game hunting licence. There are no age restrictions for a small game hunting licence, but you must complete a hunter education course to obtain one.
- Young hunters aged 12 and 13 must be accompanied by a person 19 years of age or older who holds a valid Yukon hunting licence and big game seal for that species, or who is a licensed guide provided by a licensed Yukon outfitter.

  These young hunters must use the seal of the accompanying adult if they hunt a big game animal. They may hunt under the adult's Permit Hunt Authorization.
- Young hunters aged 14 and 15 must be accompanied by a person 19 years of age or older who holds a valid Yukon hunting licence, or who is a licensed guide provided by a licensed Yukon outfitter. These young hunters must obtain and use their own seals.

Federal Firearm Laws

- Anyone over the age of 18 that possesses or uses a firearm is legally required to pass the Canadian Firearms Safety Course and obtain a Possession and Acquisition Licence.
- Firearm users aged 12 to 17 must pass the Canadian Firearms Safety Course and obtain a Minor's Possession and Acquisition Licence.
- Some adaptations to these rules have been made for aboriginal peoples. For more information, consult www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/cfp-pcaf/fs-fd/ab-au-eng.htm.
- A firearm licence is not necessary to borrow a firearm if the borrower remains under the direct and immediate supervision of a properly licensed adult aged 18 or older.

? *For more information on federal firearm laws that apply to anyone who owns, possesses, or uses firearms in Canada, call the Canadian Firearms Program at 1-800-731-4000 or consult* www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/cfp.

Permit Hunts by Lottery

If you wish to hunt moose, caribou, sheep, goat, deer or elk in a **permit area**, you must first submit an application and be successful in the lottery to hunt for one of these species. It is unlawful to hunt these species in their respective permit hunt areas without a valid permit and big game seal. Even if you have a permit for the area, you still need written permission from the applicable First Nation to hunt on Category A settlement land, as well as Category B settlement land if you are hunting bison or elk.

Permit Hunt Authorization (PHA) Applications

- Only Yukon residents are eligible to apply for PHAs. You must be at least 12 years of age to apply for any PHA, excepting the two deer permits for young hunters.
- Applications must be received by Environment Yukon no later than closing time on **Friday, June 10, 2016**. (Closing times differ. Check your district office.) Apply early to avoid a line up.

- There is a non-refundable $10 fee for each permit hunt application, GST extra.
- The hunting licence numbers of applicants drawn in each category are posted on the Environment Yukon website. The PHAs are mailed to successful applicants except for elk PHAs; successful elk PHA applicants must pick up their permit at an Environment Yukon office.
- **Moose, caribou, sheep, goat, deer and elk** hunters who receive a PHA are not eligible for another PHA for that species the following year unless there are permits left over after the draw. Two **deer** PHAs will be issued for young hunters **aged 14 and 15** only.
  Youth must be 14 or 15 on the day they apply for the PHA.
- One **sheep** PHA will be offered in the Kluane Wildlife Sanctuary for a resident Yukon hunter. All applications will be given equal weight in the draw. Hunters who harvested a sheep under this permit in previous years are ineligible to apply. A map of the hunt area will be included with the permit.
- The area described on the PHA is the only place where the permit holder may hunt for that species in the permit hunt area.
- Season dates for each permit area are noted on the PHA.

PHA Joint Applications (Caribou, Sheep, Goat, Deer and Elk)

Two persons who wish to hunt together for caribou, sheep, goat, deer or elk may apply jointly on one application. Please note, the chances of being drawn are based on the number of times the first name on the application is on file. The fee for a joint application is $20, GST extra. If a joint application is drawn in the lottery, both applicants receive a PHA for the same permit area. (If only one PHA is available, the person first named receives the permit.) If two people who wish to hunt together submit separate applications, the chances of getting PHAs for the same area are very slim.

PHAs for Yukon Residents Age 12 or 13

Yukon residents 12 or 13 years of age may use the PHA and seal of a Yukon resident hunter aged 19 years or older as long as the youth is accompanied by the adult PHA holder. The youth must successfully complete a Hunter Education and Ethics Development course and hold a current year's hunting license. At the time of the hunt, the youth must be at least 12 but not yet 14 years of age. If a youth harvests an animal under an adult's PHA, the adult PHA holder must report the harvest and submit any compulsory submissions, and provide the youth's name on the kill report form. Please note that once an animal is killed, the PHA is no longer valid.

Voluntary Return of Permits

The PHA form allows you to check a box if you are only applying for a permit to increase your weighting in future years. Once the box is checked, no permit will be issued. Your name will be treated as if you were unsuccessful in the draw and your weighting increased accordingly for the next time you apply in future draws.

Hunters successfully drawn for a PHA may still voluntarily return the permit within 10 days of date of mailing, in cases where they will not be using the permits. Their names will continue to be weighted in future draws as though they were unsuccessful in this year's draw. Application fees will not be refunded.

Permit Hunts by Lottery

Hunt Reporting Requirements for Permit Holders

Hunters holding a PHA have special hunt reporting requirements, which are listed on the back of the permit. For most species, PHA holders are required to report their kill no later than 15 days after the end of the month in which the animal was taken or, if they were not successful, no later than 10 days after the end of the season specified on the permit. Bison and elk permits have specific reporting requirements. Season closures may differ between permit areas, so be sure to read and follow the instructions on the back of the permit. Remember to fill out and return your PHA within the specified time, even if you did not hunt or were not successful in harvesting an animal.

Extended-Season Permit Hunt for Moose in Zone 7

- An extended-season hunt for moose may take place in subzones 7–01 to 7–12.
- Eligibility for the extended-season hunt is limited to those who have applied for a permit in subzones 7–01 to 7–12 but were unsuccessful, and who have not already taken a moose in the 2016-17 season.
- Extended-season hunt permits are issued free of charge.
- If you are eligible and interested in the extended-season hunt for moose, you **must** contact the Environment Yukon office in Haines Junction. Phone 867-634-2247 between November 3 and November 10, 2016.

For answers to frequently asked questions on permit hunting in Yukon, visit: www.env.gov.yk.ca/pha.

Hunter Check Stops

Conservation Officers set up hunter check stations on Yukon roads during the spring bear and fall big game hunting seasons. Conservation Officers use check stops to collect information for wildlife management programs and to conduct inspections to ensure that hunters are complying with the *Wildlife Act*. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Permit Hunts Without Lottery

Bison Permits Required

All bison hunters require a bison permit, which can be obtained at any Environment Yukon office. Season dates vary by subzone/area. Successful hunters must report their kill no later than 10 days after the animal was taken. If the annual harvest limit is reached, the bison season will be closed. Check the bison hunt web page for updates: www.env.gov.yk.ca/bison.

Elk Exclusion Area Permits Available

Any licensed resident hunter may obtain a permit to hunt elk in the elk exclusion area from April 1 to March 31. Successful hunters are required to report their kill and make mandatory submissions no later than 72 hours after the animal was taken. Hunters are strongly encouraged to purchase the elk hunt map showing hunt areas and settlement lands from an Environment Yukon office. Maps may also be viewed at: www.environmentyukon.ca/maps/view/nav/3/17.

Special Permits Required for Hunting Grizzly Bears in Subzones 1-01, 1–04, 1–05, 1–12, 1–13, and 1–14

The Yukon North Slope (Subzones 1-01, 1–04, 1–05, 1–12, 1–13, 1–14) is in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region and falls under the *Inuvialuit Final Agreement*. Inuvialuit beneficiaries may exercise their harvest rights for grizzly bears by obtaining a special permit from Environment Yukon. These permits are administered by the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee.

! After the Harvest

Once you harvest a big game animal you must:

- Immediately cancel your big game seal and attach it to the carcass.
- Keep evidence of sex and species as required.
- For big game hunts other than permit hunts, report your harvest to Environment Yukon by these deadlines:
    - Bison — no later than **10 days** after the animal was harvested.
    - Moose and caribou — no later than **15 days** after the end of the month in which the animal was harvested.
- Deliver **compulsory submissions** to a Conservation Officer or wildlife technician as follows:
    - Elk — no later than **72 hours** after the animal was harvested.
    - Bison, sheep, goat, deer, black bear and grizzly bear, wolf and wolverine — no later than **15 days** after the end of the month in which the animal was harvested.
- Submit **pelts** to a Conservation Officer or wildlife technician as follows:
    - Wolverine pelts — within **15 days** of the end of the month in which the animal was killed or before the pelt is sold or transferred; a $10 sealing fee applies.
    - Wolf pelts — by **April 15** or before the pelt is sold or transferred; there is no sealing fee.
- For **permit hunts**, report your results as specified on the permit.
- For **threshold hunts** report your harvest as is required for the specific hunt.
    - Moose harvested in Game Management Subzones 4-44, 4-45 and 4-46 must be reported no later than **72 hours** after the animal was harvested.

Read the big game section on **pages 37-59** for more detail about the requirements for each species.

Non-Residents and Guides

Non-resident aliens hunting big game must be guided by a registered Yukon outfitter. Non-resident Canadians hunting big game must be guided by a registered Yukon outfitter **or** guided by a Yukon resident hunter holding a special guide licence.

All non-residents must pay harvest fees on any big game animals taken, prior to leaving Yukon.

Non-residents may purchase a small game only licence and hunt small game and game birds without a guide.

$ Non-Resident Harvest Fees (GST EXTRA)

Coyote	$50	Wolf	$75
Wolverine	$75	Black Bear	$75
Moose	$150	Caribou	$150
Mountain Goat	$200	Mountain Sheep	$250
Grizzly Bear - male	$500	Bison	$500
Grizzly Bear - female	$750		

Your Responsibilities as a Guide

These responsibilities apply to all guides, including Yukon residents guiding under a special guide licence:

- You must accompany your hunter at all times when hunting. See **page 19** for details on what it means to accompany a hunter.
- If your hunter commits a violation of the *Wildlife Act,* you must mark the site and report the violation to a Conservation Officer as soon as possible.
- You have a responsibility to ensure that the hunting laws, including those applying to the waste of meat and fur, are followed. See **page 24**.
- You must complete, sign and submit an Outfitter/Chief Guide/Hunter Report to an Environment Yukon office within 10 days of the end of the month in which the hunt occurred, whether or not any wildlife was killed. If no hunt occurred, you must still complete, sign and submit the report to an Environment Yukon office within 10 days of the end of the month in which the season for that species ends.

Your Responsibilities as a Guided Non-Resident

- You are responsible for following the hunting laws and ensuring the meat and hide of any furbearing animal you kill is not wasted. See **page 24**.
- You will be required to sign a legal document called an Outfitter/Chief Guide/Hunter Report. You should check this form carefully to make sure the information provided by your guide is accurate, including the kill location(s), dates and names of all people who acted as your guide.
- If you kill a big game animal you must pay the harvest fee before leaving Yukon or within 10 days of the end of the hunt, whichever occurs first.
- For a **specially guided** non-resident hunter with moose and caribou seals, you may harvest **either** a moose **or** a caribou. Once one of these species is harvested, the seal for the other species is cancelled. However, if you harvest a caribou first, you may harvest a second caribou from the Porcupine caribou herd if you have a second seal.

Other Laws for Non-Residents and Guides

- It is unlawful to act as a guide without a valid guiding licence.
- All big game guides must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada, and at least 18 years of age.
- Outfitters must provide a separate guide for each big game hunter.

Special Guide Licences

If you hold a valid Yukon resident big game hunting licence, and are at least 19 years of age, you may apply for a special guide licence to guide a Canadian citizen or permanent resident who is not a resident of Yukon.

It is unlawful to accept payment or reward of any kind for this service. You must meet all your responsibilities as a guide as described on the previous page. Harvest fees must be paid on all big game animals killed. Goat, sheep, elk, deer, grizzly bear and wolverine cannot be hunted under a special guide licence.

Species and Areas

Special guide licences are limited to the following species and areas and are subject to general hunting laws. Special guide maps are available from Environment Yukon offices or can be downloaded from: www.env.gov.yk.ca/hunting.

- Moose in Zones 1 (excluding subzone 1-01), 2, 3, 8, 10 and 11 and subzones 4–01, 4–02, 4–04 to 4-43, 4-47 to 4–50, 4-52; 5–01 to 5–21, 5–25, 5–27, 5–29, 5–43, 5–44, 5–48 to 5–51; and 9–08 to 9–11.
- Caribou in Zones 1 (excluding subzone 1-01) and 2 (excluding subzones 2-19, 2-20, 2-21, 2-24) and subzones 4–01, 4–02, 4–04 to 4-43, 44-7 to 4-50, 4-52; 8–01 to 8–11, 8–18 to 8–25; 10–01 to 10–04, 10–10 to 10–16, 10–20 to 10–32; 11–01, 11–19, 11–24 to 11–46.
- Wolf, and coyote in Zones 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 and subzones 1-15, 1-17 to 1-19, 1-21 to 1-72; 4–01, 4–02 , 4–04 to 4–50 and 4–52.
- Black bear in Zone 1 (excluding 1-01), 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 and subzones 4-01, 4-02, 4-04 to 4-50 and 4-52.

Licence Frequency

- **Eligible residents** can apply for a special guide licence through the lottery process once per year.
- **Non-residents** may be guided under a special guide licence once every three years and their name may only appear once in the current year's draw.

Non-Residents and Guides

Applications

Starting 2016, special guide licences are issued through a weighted lottery process. Applications are available at Environment Yukon offices from **April 1 to April 22** for a non-refundable fee of $10. Special guide licence applications are not subject to GST.

Applicants can choose from **either** a special guiding opportunity for moose/caribou (100 licences are available) or a special guiding opportunity for bison (25 licences are available). Each licence also includes opportunities to harvest black bear, coyote and wolf.

Applicants may check a "hold" box in the draw. If selected, they will be treated as if they have been unsuccessful and their weighting will increase for the next draw in which they apply.

Exporting Wildlife from Yukon

You must obtain a Wildlife Export Permit before removing or shipping wildlife parts from Yukon. A permit will be issued only if you reported your harvest, made all biological submissions and paid all harvest fees. A permit to export meat can be issued only if you reported the harvest and paid all fees. Sheep horns must have a metal plug inserted by a Conservation Officer or wildlife technician **before** a Wildlife Export Permit will be issued.

In order to avoid delays, have the following required information with you when applying for a Wildlife Export Permit:

- complete name, address and phone number of the sender,
- name of person who harvested the wildlife,
- licence (hunting or trapping) or permit number and year the wildlife item was legally harvested or possessed,
- species and description of wildlife item to be exported,
- sheep horn plug number, if applicable,
- number of packages in shipment, and
- complete name, address and phone number of the recipient.

Every shipment containing wildlife parts must be clearly marked on the outside showing:

- name and address of the sender,
- Wildlife Export Permit number, and
- a true statement of contents.

Exporting Wildlife from Yukon

! CITES Permits

If you wish to export grizzly bear, black bear, polar bear, wolf, otter, lynx or wood bison meat and/or parts out of Canada, be aware that the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) applies to these animals. You must obtain a Wildlife Export Permit from an Environment Yukon office or have an Outfitter/Chief Guide/Hunter Report Harvest Fee Receipt and Wildlife Export (OHE) Permit before you obtain a CITES permit. See www.cites.ca for more information.

CITES permits are currently issued free of charge at Environment Yukon offices, but require **24-hour advance notice**.

Many countries have their own import requirements for wildlife parts. Please check with the importing country if you are uncertain of those requirements.

Please note that the Canada Border Services Agency must inspect all shipments to the United States at the point of export, and will validate the accompanying CITES permit at that time.

Hunting on First Nation Settlement Lands

About First Nation Settlement Lands

Eleven Yukon First Nations hold legal title to approximately 31,595 km² of land in Yukon. About two-thirds of these lands are Category A settlement lands which include surface and sub-surface ownership. The remaining third are Category B settlement lands and fee simple lands (private property) which include surface ownership only.

Please note that settlement land and Traditional Territory are not the same. Traditional Territory is the area a First Nation or its members' ancestors traditionally used (see map on **page 15**). Settlement lands are owned by First Nations with a Final Agreement and come in parcels of varying size.

Licensed hunters must still comply with the general hunting laws and any laws that the First Nation has enacted regarding hunting on settlement lands.

Proof of Consent

Written permission (consent) from the First Nation is required **before** hunting any big game or small game species on all Category A settlement lands. Consent from the First Nation is required before hunting bison and elk on Category A and B settlement lands. Verbal permission **is not** consent.

Locating Settlement Lands on Which Consent to Hunt is Required

The map included with this booklet only shows the larger blocks of Category A settlement lands. Smaller blocks, and all other First Nation settlement lands, are marked on detailed maps which can be viewed at the local First Nation's office, or viewed online and downloaded from: www.env.gov.yk.ca/maps.

Printed maps can also be purchased from Environment Yukon's office at 10 Burns Road, Whitehorse for $10 + GST. It's a good idea to check these maps when planning your hunt destination.

Hunting on First Nation Settlement Lands

Rights of Licensed Hunters

- You have a right to cross Category A and Category B settlement lands.
- Except when hunting bison and elk, you have a right to hunt on undeveloped Category B settlement lands without proof of consent from the local First Nation, subject to the responsibilities described below and the general hunting laws.
- Undeveloped settlement lands means any parcel not designated as developed by mutual agreement of federal, territorial and First Nation governments. The presence or absence of buildings or other structures is not an indication of a parcel's designation. Where a waterfront right-of-way (the 30-metre-wide right-of-way existing around navigable waters within or beside settlement lands) lies on Category A settlement lands, you have a right to hunt waterfowl, but no other wildlife, in the right-of-way, subject to the responsibilities described below and the general hunting laws. This does not apply to the few cases where there is no waterfront right-of-way. Maps of these locations are available at: www.env.gov.yk.ca/closures.
- On a navigable waterway (any waterbody that can be navigated with a boat, raft, canoe or kayak) bordering on settlement lands, you have a right to hunt wildlife standing on gravel bars, other parts of the shoreline below the high water mark, or islands which are not part of settlement lands, subject to the responsibilities described here and the general hunting laws.

Please check the detailed maps at Environment Yukon offices to determine the exact boundary between First Nation settlement land and the navigable waterbody where you plan to hunt.

Responsibilities of Licensed Hunters

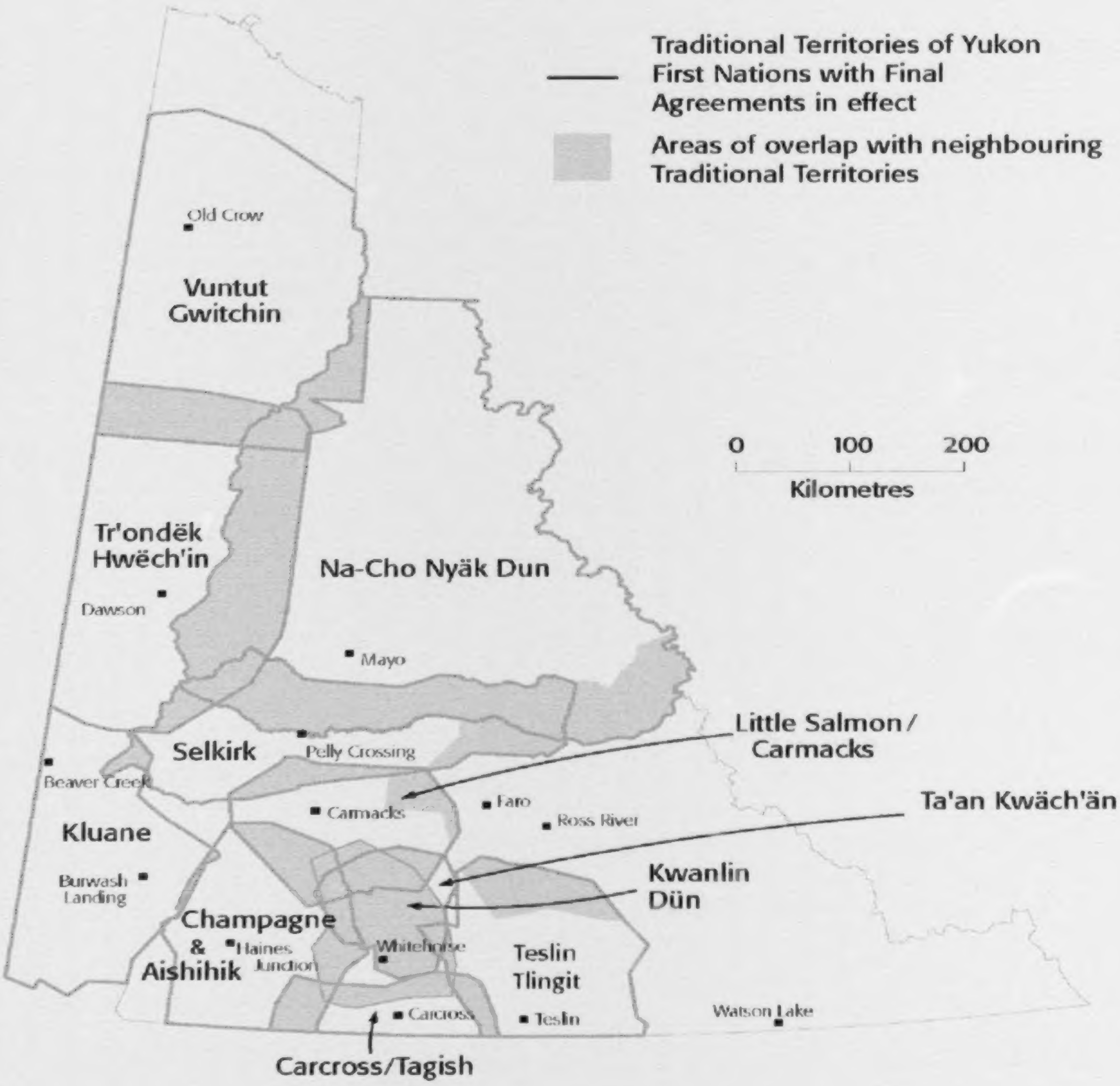
- When hunting on settlement lands you must not:
  - damage the land or structures,
  - commit acts of mischief, or
  - interfere with the use and enjoyment of the land by the First Nation.

  A person who does any of these things is considered a trespasser.
- When planning a hunting trip, you must find out whether or not your destination is on settlement land. First check the map included with this booklet, then check the detailed maps available through Environment Yukon.
- When using settlement lands within the limits of public access rights you must comply with any laws set by the First Nation for the purpose of managing the land and resources. The best way to ensure compliance is to contact a First Nation before using their land.

! Tetlit Gwich'in Settlement Lands

The Tetlit Gwich'in are the traditional people of the Fort McPherson region near the Yukon-N.W.T. border. They have settlement lands in the Peel River area of Yukon (marked in Game Management Zones 1 and 2). Hunters require prior consent in writing to hunt on these lands. For more information, contact your local Environment Yukon office or the Tetlit Gwich'in office in Fort McPherson at 867-952-2330 or by fax at 867-952-2212.

Traditional Territories
of Yukon First Nations with Final Agreements


Traditional Territories of Yukon First Nations with Final Agreements in effect
Areas of overlap with neighbouring Traditional Territories
0
100
200
Kilometres
Old Crow
Vuntut Gwitchin
Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in
Dawson
Na-Cho Nyäk Dun
Mayo
Little Salmon / Carmacks
Selkirk
Pelly Crossing
Beaver Creek
Ta'an Kwäch'än
Carmacks
Faro
Ross River
Kluane
Burwash Landing
Kwanlin Dün
Champagne & Aishihik
Haines Junction
Whitehorse
Teslin Tlingit
Carcross
Teslin
Watson Lake
Carcross/Tagish

A detailed map of Traditional Territories can be viewed at First Nation offices or Environment Yukon offices.

For More Information

Contact one of the First Nations listed on **page 91**, your local Environment Yukon office or the Environment Yukon Land Claim Section at 867-667-5995; outside Whitehorse call toll free 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5995.

Rights and Responsibilities of First Nation Hunters

Beneficiaries of a Yukon First Nation WITH a Final Agreement

Your Rights – You have a right to hunt for food **inside** the Traditional Territory of your First Nation and any portion of your Traditional Territory that overlaps another First Nation's Traditional Territory.

- You can harvest male or female animals, at any time of year, with no bag limits, subject to regulation by your First Nation. You do not need a Yukon hunting licence to exercise this right.
- These rights may be limited by territorial or federal laws for the purpose of conservation, public health or public safety.
- These rights do not apply to the Porcupine caribou herd or introduced species such as elk and wood bison.

Your Responsibilities – If you want to hunt **outside** your Traditional Territory:

- You must have a valid Yukon hunting licence and you must comply with the *Wildlife Act* and the regulations that apply to all hunters. OR
- You must have **written consent** from a First Nation with a Final Agreement to hunt for food in part of its Traditional Territory that does not overlap with the Traditional Territory of another First Nation. In this area you can harvest male or female animals (except elk or bison), at any time of year, with no bag limits, subject to regulation by that First Nation. You do not need a Yukon hunting licence to exercise this right.

  A First Nation **cannot** give you permission to hunt in an overlap area outside your own Traditional Territory. You will need to have a hunting licence and comply with the general hunting regulations in these areas.

! Hunting the Porcupine Caribou Herd

If you are a First Nation person who is recognized by one of the Native User Communities listed in the *Porcupine Caribou Management Agreement*, you have a right to hunt the Porcupine caribou herd for food without a Yukon hunting licence. Native User Communities are Old Crow, Dawson City, Mayo, Fort McPherson, Tsiigehtchic, Aklavik, Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk.

If you are a First Nation person who is not recognized by one of the Native User Communities, and your First Nation **has** a Final Agreement, you must have written consent to hunt Porcupine caribou within the Traditional Territory of a First Nation with a Final Agreement. If you do not have consent, or if you wish to hunt within the Traditional Territory of a First Nation without a Final Agreement, you must hunt with a Yukon hunting licence and are subject to the *Wildlife Act* and regulations.

If you are a First Nation person who is not recognized by one of the Native User Communities, and your First Nation does not have a Final Agreement, you can hunt Porcupine caribou for food without a licence **only** in areas where there is no Final Agreement in place.

Rights and Responsibilities of First Nation Hunters

Members of a Yukon First Nation WITHOUT a Final Agreement

Your Rights – You have a right to hunt for food **outside** the Traditional Territories of First Nations with Final Agreements, without a Yukon hunting licence. In these areas you can harvest male or female animals (except bison and elk), at any time of year, with no bag limits.

Your Responsibilities – If you want to hunt **inside** the Traditional Territory of a First Nation with a Final Agreement:

- You must have a valid Yukon hunting licence and you must comply with the *Wildlife Act* and the hunting regulations that apply to all hunters. OR
- You must have **written consent** from a First Nation with a Final Agreement to hunt for food in the part of its Traditional Territory that does not overlap with the Traditional Territory of another First Nation. In this area you can harvest male or female animals (except bison and elk), at any time of year, with no bag limits, subject to regulation by that First Nation. You do not need a Yukon hunting licence to exercise this right.

  A First Nation **cannot** give you permission to hunt in an overlap area. You will need to have a hunting licence and comply with the general hunting regulations in these areas.

Beneficiaries of the *Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement*

Your Rights

- You have a right to hunt and fish for food in the Primary Use Area, the Secondary Use Area, and those areas of the Traditional Territory of the Na-Cho Nyäk Dun, which do not overlap with any other Yukon First Nation. In these areas you can harvest male or female animals (except bison and elk), at any time of year, with no bag limits. You can also harvest in accordance with the *Porcupine Caribou Management Agreement*; see "Hunting the Porcupine Caribou Herd" on the previous page. You do not need a Yukon hunting licence to exercise this right.
- Your right to hunt in the Secondary Use Area and the non-overlapped portion of the Traditional Territory of the Na-Cho Nyäk Dun is subject to regulation by the First Nation.

Your Responsibilities

- If you want to hunt **outside** the Traditional Territories of First Nations with a Final Agreement, you can harvest male or female animals (except bison and elk) without a Yukon hunting licence, at any time of year, with no bag limits, but you may need a licensed guide.
- If you want to hunt **inside** the Traditional Territory of a First Nation with a Final Agreement you must have a valid Yukon hunting licence, you must comply with the *Wildlife Act* and the regulations that apply to all hunters, and you may need a licensed guide.

Rights and Responsibilities of First Nation Hunters

Beneficiaries of the *Inuvialuit Final Agreement*

Your Rights

- You have an exclusive right subject to any established quota to harvest furbearers and polar bears on the Yukon North Slope, and the exclusive right to harvest game within Ivvavik National Park and Herschel Island-Qikiqtaruk Territorial Park.
- You have the preferential right to hunt for food all species of wildlife (except for migratory non-game birds and migratory insectivorous birds) on the North Slope.
- You can harvest Porcupine caribou in accordance with the *Porcupine Caribou Management Agreement*; see "Hunting the Porcupine Caribou Herd" on **page 16**.
- You do not need a Yukon hunting licence to exercise your right to harvest on the Yukon North Slope.

Your Responsibilities

- If you want to hunt **outside** the Traditional Territories of First Nations with Final Agreements, you can harvest male or female animals (except bison and elk) without a Yukon hunting licence, at any time of year, with no bag limits, but you may need a licensed guide.
- If you want to hunt **inside** the Traditional Territory of a First Nation with a Final Agreement, you must have a valid Yukon hunting licence, you must comply with the *Wildlife Act* and the regulations that apply to all hunters, and you may need a licensed guide.

Members of First Nations or Inuit Not Eligible to Enroll Under a Yukon Final Agreement or Transboundary Agreement

Your Rights – If you are a Yukon resident, you may hunt for food **outside** the Traditional Territories of First Nations with Final Agreements without a Yukon hunting licence. In these areas, you can harvest male or female animals (except bison and elk), at any time of year, with no bag limits. However, if you do not live in Yukon, you may need a licensed guide to hunt big game.

Your Responsibilities – If you want to hunt **inside** the Traditional Territory of a First Nation with a Final Agreement, you must have a valid Yukon hunting licence, you must comply with the *Wildlife Act* and the regulations that apply to all hunters, and you may need a licensed guide.

? *Harvesting Females*

Cow (female) harvest has a bigger impact on populations than a bull (male) harvest. The loss of the cow means a loss of all the calves she could have produced during her lifetime. Choosing to shoot a bull over a cow will help ensure wildlife are available for generations to come.

Accompanying a Hunter

To accompany a hunter means you are close enough to:

- Observe the person and communicate with them by unamplified voice.
- Directly supervise and provide instruction to the person to ensure their safety.
- Exercise reasonable control over the person to ensure they comply with the *Wildlife Act* while hunting.

Aircraft

It is unlawful to do the following:

- Hunt big game **within six hours of arriving** at a hunt camp by aircraft other than a commercial aircraft on a regularly scheduled flight from one airport to another.
- Hunt wildlife from an aircraft.
- Spot wildlife from an aircraft and hunt it within 48 hours, or communicate its location to a hunter on the ground.
- Hunt wildlife within 48 hours of receiving information about the location of wildlife from a person who observed that wildlife from an aircraft.
- Transport big game meat or any parts by helicopter.
- Transport big game hunters, or be transported for the purpose of big game hunting, by helicopter.
- Transport any vehicle by helicopter for the purpose of hunting.

! Penalties for Violations of the *Wildlife Act*

Fines and Imprisonment

The maximum penalty for a general offence under the *Wildlife Act*, such as hunting out of season, is a $50,000 fine and/or imprisonment up to 12 months. The maximum penalty for an offence involving specially protected wildlife, or profiting from a wildlife related offence, is a $100,000 fine and/or imprisonment for up to 24 months.

Automatic Loss of Hunting Licence

Some offences can also result in the automatic loss of a hunting licence for one or more years. Offences in this category include hunting specially protected wildlife, using a vehicle to chase wildlife or illegal guiding. If the courts have banned you from hunting in another jurisdiction, you cannot acquire a Yukon hunting licence until you are eligible again for a hunting licence in that jurisdiction.

Forfeiture of Vehicles, Equipment and Wildlife

A Conservation Officer has the authority to seize any vehicles or equipment used in committing an offence under the *Wildlife Act* as well as any wildlife taken in contravention of the act. In the event of a conviction, these items may be permanently forfeited to the Crown.

Attracting Dangerous Wildlife

- It is unlawful to feed dangerous wildlife, or to leave food or garbage in a place where dangerous wildlife may have access to it. Dangerous wildlife includes bears, foxes, coyotes, wolves and cougars.
- A Conservation Officer can enter and inspect a building, other than a dwelling, without a warrant if the officer has reasonable grounds to believe that dangerous wildlife is or might be attracted to the building.
- If a Conservation Officer believes that an attractant poses a risk to public safety, the Officer may issue a Dangerous Wildlife Protection Order directing the person in charge to clean up, contain or remove the attractant.

Baiting and Poisoning

It is unlawful to:

- Use bait to hunt big game other than wolves or coyotes.
- Possess or use poison or drugs to kill, injure, disable or capture wildlife.

! Definitions

Bait means anything placed for luring or attracting wildlife by its sense of smell or taste, but does not include parts of legally taken wildlife not reasonably suitable for human consumption that are located at the place in the field where the harvested animal died.

Hunting means shooting at, attracting, searching for, chasing, flushing, pursuing, following after or on the trail of, stalking or lying in wait for wildlife. If you do, or try to do, any of these things (a) with the intent to wound, kill or capture wildlife, or (b) while in the possession of a firearm or other weapon, you are considered to be hunting even if you do not actually wound, kill or capture wildlife.

Wildlife means a vertebrate animal of any species that is wild by nature, and includes wildlife in captivity but does not include fish. When referenced in the *Wildlife Act* and this booklet, the word wildlife includes dead or live wildlife, the whole or any part of wildlife, and the eggs and sperm of wildlife.

Specially Protected Wildlife means cougar, gyrfalcon, peregrine falcon, and trumpeter swan.

Big Game Animal means moose, caribou, wood bison, muskox, sheep, goat, deer, elk, black bear, grizzly bear, polar bear, wolf, wolverine and coyote.

Small Game Animal means snowshoe hare, arctic ground squirrel and porcupine.

Game Bird means grouse and ptarmigan.

Carcass includes all the body parts of a dead animal.

Possession means having something in any place for the use or benefit of yourself or another person. This includes something that you keep off your property or in the possession of another person. When one person in a group has something in their possession with the knowledge and consent of the rest, it is considered to be in the possession of each member of the group.

Bowhunting

- When hunting big game with a bow, hunters must use:
  - a bow having a draw weight of at least 20 kg (45 lbs) at your draw length, and
  - broadhead arrows at least 710 mm (28 in) in length.
- Sheep hunters in subzone 9–03 (Gray Ridge) are restricted to bowhunting only. Since this is a permit hunt area for sheep, you must first obtain a PHA through the lottery system. See **page 6**.
- Bowhunting is allowed for all big game species in Yukon except wood bison.
- Crossbows are not legal for hunting in Yukon.

Captive Wildlife

It is unlawful to:

- Hunt wildlife for the purpose of keeping it in captivity, without a special permit obtained in advance.
- Hunt wildlife held in captivity.

Compulsory Submissions

Every person who harvests a **bison, sheep, goat, deer, elk, black bear, grizzly bear, wolf or wolverine** must deliver compulsory submissions to a Conservation Officer or wildlife technician. You can find specific compulsory submissions and rules listed under their respective species on **pages 37-59**.

Evidence of Sex and Species

Legal evidence of sex and species is required following a successful hunt for **moose, sheep, goat, deer, elk, caribou or grizzly bear**. These parts must be retained until they are inspected by a Conservation Officer or when the harvested big game is at the usual place of residence of the person who killed it. See the requirements listed under their respective species on **pages 37-59**.

Handling Biological Submissions

Rotting submissions are dangerous for staff to handle because of the risk of blood poisoning. To reduce this risk, please keep the submission frozen or strip off the flesh and dry the remaining tissue.

Firearms and Ammunition

A firearm is any device that propels a projectile by means of an explosion, compressed gas, springs or strings. It includes a rifle, shotgun, handgun, spring gun or longbow.

It is unlawful to hunt big game with:

- a crossbow,
- a pistol or a revolver,
- a shotgun smaller than 20 gauge,
- a rifle calibre less than 6 mm (.24 calibre)—a 5.6 mm (.22 calibre) centre fire rifle may be used for wolves and coyotes,

- a muzzle loaded or black powder rifle less than 11.4 mm (.45 calibre),
- shotgun ammunition other than a slug,
- non-expanding full metal-jacket bullets commonly known as "service ammunition", or
- a silencing device.

It is unlawful to hunt game birds and small game animals with a firearm, trap or device other than the following:

- a shotgun having a bore diameter not larger than 10 gauge, that is loaded with birdshot,
- any rimfire or centrefire rifle,
- a bow and arrows,
- a 5.6 mm air gun,
- a 4.496 mm air gun, or
- a slingshot.

It is unlawful to hunt **migratory game birds** in Yukon using any shot other than non-toxic shot. See **page 28**.

For minimum firearm requirements for hunting wood bison, see **page 43**.

It is unlawful to hunt wildlife with a **set firearm**—a firearm designed to be discharged when it is not being physically held by a person.

It is unlawful to hunt with an **unsafe firearm**.

! The VITAL FOUR ACTS of Firearm Safety

1. **A**ssume every firearm is loaded.
2. **C**ontrol the muzzle direction at all times.
3. **T**rigger finger off and outside the trigger guard.
4. **S**ee that the firearm is unloaded. Prove it safe.

Found Carcasses or Parts Thereof

If you want to keep any part of a wildlife carcass found beside a road or anywhere else, you must first bring the item to a Conservation Officer and apply for a permit to possess it. The officer will ask a few questions and if everything is in order, a permit will likely be issued. Naturally shed antlers with the burr at its base intact from moose, caribou, elk and deer may be kept without a permit.

Permits cannot be issued for certain species protected by federal legislation. These species may be retained for museum display.

Harassing Wildlife

It is unlawful to harass wildlife. Harass means to worry, exhaust, fatigue, annoy, plague, pester, tease or torment, including:

- Chasing wildlife with a vehicle or boat.
- Trying to interfere with the movement of wildlife across a road or waterbody.

- Capturing, handling or manipulating wildlife or allowing your dog to chase or molest big game animals, furbearing animals or specially protected wildlife.
- The only exception is in cases where the Minister of Environment may issue a permit to a landowner in order to protect their private property.

Hours of Hunting

- It is unlawful to hunt any wildlife between one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise. The website www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/services/sunrise provides sunrise and sunset data for Whitehorse and Dawson City.
- Where the sun does not rise or set daily, it is unlawful to hunt wildlife when the centre of the sun is more than 6° below the horizon. This is known as astronomical twilight, which means it is dark enough to see stars.

Non-Hunting Kills

- If you kill a big game animal, lynx, fox, eagle, hawk, falcon or specially protected wildlife **accidentally** or to **prevent your own starvation**, you must report it to a Conservation Officer as soon as possible.
- If you kill a bear or other animal in **self-defence** you must report it to a Conservation Officer as soon as possible. You may kill the animal only if there is an immediate threat of serious injury and all practical means of averting the threat have been exhausted. Under no circumstances may you kill a caribou, sheep, goat, deer, elk or bird in self-defence.
- If you kill a bear or other animal in **defence of property** you must report it to a Conservation Officer as soon as possible. You may kill the animal only if there is an immediate threat of substantial damage to property and all practical means of averting the threat have been exhausted. You cannot kill a bear that has been attracted to a kill site of a harvested animal unless it is necessary for self-defence. Under no circumstances may you kill a moose, caribou, bison, sheep, goat, deer, elk or bird in defence of property.
- Regulations prohibiting the waste of meat or fur also apply to non-hunting kills. See **page 24**.

! If you do not report a non-hunting kill as soon as possible, you may be charged under the *Wildlife Act.*

Public Safety and Private Property

It is unlawful to do the following:

- Hunt within one kilometre of a residence, whether the occupants are present or not, without the permission of the occupants.
- Hunt in a way that is likely to cause damage to crops, livestock, domestic animals, or other personal property.
- Hunt in a way that is likely to cause injury to a person.

This applies to the hunting of big game, small game (including snaring), game birds and migratory birds.

Trading, Buying or Selling

You must have a permit (available at any Environment Yukon office) to buy, sell, trade, or distribute wildlife for gain or consideration, to offer to do so, or to possess wildlife for the purpose thereof. Wildlife includes wildlife parts and the eggs of migratory birds and game birds.

Purchases made from the Government of Yukon's Pelt, Hide, Horn, Antler Auction do not require a permit. A resident big game hunter may sell, without a permit, the hide of a moose, caribou or bison, or the pelt of a wolf or coyote, they harvested during the term of the hunting licence under which it was harvested.

Vehicles and Roadways

It is unlawful to:

- Have a loaded firearm (a cartridge-loading firearm with a live shell or cartridge in the breech or chamber, or a muzzle-loading firearm with gunpowder and a projectile in the chamber and an ignition device in place) in or on a vehicle.
- Discharge a firearm on or across the travelled portion of a public road or highway. Hunters must be off the road completely and off the shoulder of the road. See www.env.gov.yk.ca/hunting-fishing-trapping/roadways.
- Use a vehicle to chase, drive, flush, exhaust or fatigue wildlife for the purpose of hunting or to assist another person hunting.

Vehicle includes a car, truck, aircraft, motorcycle, all-terrain cycle, 4-wheeler and snowmobile, and any trailer drawn by the vehicle. **It does not include a boat**.

! Conservation Officers continue to find evidence of meat wastage when conducting field inspections.

Each year charges are laid for this offence and, on conviction, Yukon courts have imposed significant penalties on offenders. The maximum penalty for a first offence is $50,000 and/or imprisonment for up to 12 months.

Waste of Meat or Fur

It is unlawful to waste the meat from a game bird, small game animal or big game animal, other than a bear, wolf, coyote, wolverine or furbearing animal. If a small game animal or game bird is delivered to a taxidermist to be mounted, the waste of meat provisions of the *Wildlife Act* do not apply.

Meat is considered to be wasted when part of an animal that is reasonably suitable for human consumption is:

- fed to dogs or other domestic animals,
- abandoned,
- destroyed or allowed to spoil,
- used for bait, or
- left in the field without being properly dressed and cared for to prevent the meat from being scavenged or spoiled.

General Regulations

Meat includes the neck and rib meat, the two front quarters down to the lower leg joint, the two hind quarters down to the hock, the backstraps and the tenderloins. It does not include the head, hide or viscera.

Successful hunters are required to take all of the meat from the kill site to the departure point (the place where it will be transported from the field) before taking the horns or antlers of the animal to that point. If all the meat is to be transported at once, horns or antlers may be taken with that meat, or horns or antlers may be taken with the last load of meat. **Any meat left behind once the horns or antlers are removed from the kill site is considered abandoned.**

It is unlawful to allow the hide or pelt of a bear, coyote, wolverine or wolf to be wasted.

Wounding and Retrieving Wildlife

If you wound wildlife while hunting you must make a reasonable effort to kill it. When you kill a game bird, big game animal or small game animal, you must make a reasonable effort to retrieve the carcass.

Mandatory Kill Reporting for Moose and Caribou

Providing reliable harvest information in a timely fashion is the single most significant contribution hunters can make as responsible partners in moose and caribou management.

Kill reporting is a legal requirement of the *Wildlife Act* and regulations. Hunters who fail to report their moose and/or caribou kills can be assessed significant fines or other penalties under the *Wildlife Act*.

When you harvest a moose or caribou you **must** report the kill to an Environment Yukon office no later than **15 days** after the end of the month in which the moose or caribou was taken unless otherwise specified for the area you are hunting in. See **page 90** for a list of regional office locations and phone numbers.

Reports can be made by contacting a district Environment Yukon office or the main Whitehorse office (867-667-5652) during regular business hours, Monday to Friday, except on statutory holidays. Please ensure that you have the harvest location (Game Management Subzone and nearest landmark), sex of the animal, date of harvest and your hunting licence and seal numbers readily available for reference. **Reporting only takes a few minutes of your time.**

After the kill report is completed, an Environment Yukon Client Services representative will provide you with the kill report number as confirmation that you have completed the mandatory reporting requirements. A copy of the report will be mailed to you for your records.

Kill report information **will not be accepted** by leaving a message on a voice mailbox either during or after work hours, or by phoning the TIPP line (unless otherwise instructed to do so). Hunters meet their reporting requirements if they can produce a kill report number assigned to their harvest and licence information at the request of a Conservation Officer.

Collared Wildlife

Wildlife collaring takes place in several areas of Yukon as part of research studies and ongoing management programs. Current activity includes:

Species	Location	# of collars
Caribou	Chisana (North Alaska Hwy)	50
	Klaza (West central Yukon)	11
	Kluane	11
	Porcupine (Far north)	110
	Laberge	9
	Hart River (South Dempster Hwy)	45
	Fortymile	150
	Tay River	35
Bison	Southwest Yukon	45
Elk	Southwest Yukon	28
Grizzly Bears	Southern Lakes	8
Muskox	Yukon North Slope	8
Sharptailed grouse	Dawson Goldfields	60

Please report sightings of collared wildlife to Environment Yukon.

Found Collars

Some collars are designed to fall off. If you find a collar, please return it to the nearest Environment Yukon office. Data can sometimes be retrieved from dropped collars and collars can often be reused.

Collared Wildlife Shot in Error

While it is unlawful to hunt collared wildlife, it can happen in error. If this should happen to you, report it immediately to a Conservation Officer or wildlife technician at the nearest Environment Yukon office, then return the collar to Environment Yukon. If these conditions are met, no offence has been committed, and the data contained in the collar can be retrieved.

Eating the Meat of Collared, Tagged or Tattooed Wildlife

Hunters are cautioned about eating the meat of a collared or otherwise tagged animal as the drugs used in some captures are not approved for human consumption or require time to metabolize out of the meat. Fortymile caribou captured and radio-collared in Alaska using drugs may wander into Yukon and be harvested inadvertently.

Look for the numeric tattoo on the inside of the lip of grizzly and black bears.

It is unlawful to waste meat from harvested animals. You must care for and retrieve all the edible meat from any collared, drugged, tagged or tattooed animal that you harvest. When you return the collar and report the kill, you can consult with a wildlife veterinarian and/or Conservation Officer to determine whether drugs were used during capture and handling, and to advise on how this affects consumption.

A great deal of time, effort and expense goes into collaring animals. Please avoid shooting collared animals.

Furbearing Animals

Wolves, wolverines and coyotes are furbearing animals that can be taken on a big game hunting licence. Muskrat, beaver, lynx, marten, mink, fisher, otter, weasel (ermine), fox and red squirrel are furbearing animals that may only be taken on a valid trapping licence.

Small Game and Game Birds

Either a big game licence or a small game only licence entitles you to hunt snowshoe hare, arctic ground squirrel, porcupine, grouse and ptarmigan. You may use snares to catch the following animals: hare, ground squirrel and porcupine. Marmots, woodchucks and all other small mammals and birds, except those noted in the migratory bird regulations, are protected from hunting. You may not hunt or set snares within one kilometre of a residence, whether the occupants are present or not, without the occupants' permission.

Species		**Season Dates**		**Bag Limits**	
		Zone 6 and subzone 4–03	All other zones	Daily	Possession
Small game	Snowshoe hare	Closed	Apr 1 – Mar 31	No limit	
	Arctic ground squirrel				
	Porcupine				
Game birds	Spruce/Ruffed Grouse (combined limit)	Closed	Sept 1 – Nov 30	10	30
	Dusky (Blue) Grouse	Closed	Sept 1 – Nov 30	5	15
	Sharptailed Grouse	Closed	Sept 1 – Nov 30	5*	15*
	Ptarmigan	Closed	Sept 1 – Mar 15	10	30

*except Zone 5: Daily – 2, Possession – 6

Areas Closed to Small Game Hunting

Parks and Sanctuaries

It is unlawful for licensed hunters to hunt wildlife of any kind within the boundaries of the following parks and sanctuaries:

- Kluane National Park
- Kluane Wildlife Sanctuary
- Ivvavik National Park
- Herschel Island-Qikaqtaruk Territorial Park
- Vuntut National Park
- Ddhaw Ghro (McArthur Wildlife Sanctuary)

Roadway Corridors

It is unlawful to hunt wildlife of any kind in the following roadway corridors:

- **Annie Lake Road:** 800 metres either side from the Carcross Road to kilometre 20.5.
- **Takhini Hotsprings Road:** 800 metres either side from the Klondike Highway to 800 metres beyond the Takhini Hot Springs.

Small Game and Game Birds

Showing Respect for Small Game Animals

Although small game such as ground squirrel and snowshoe hare have no bag limits, these animals should not be regarded as vermin. Along with porcupine, they are a valued food source in the traditions of First Nation people and other Yukon residents. Remember, it is unlawful to waste the meat of small game.

Migratory Game Birds

To hunt migratory birds you must have, in addition to a valid Yukon hunting licence, a federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit with a Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp. These are available at Canada Post outlets. In Yukon, migratory game birds include **ducks, geese, rails, coots, sandhill cranes and snipe**. All other migratory birds are protected from hunting. Bag limits and additional conditions apply. Pick up regulations with your permit.

Migratory Game Birds Open Season

Zones	Yukon residents	Non-residents
Northern	August 15 – October 31	September 1 – October 31
Central	August 15 – October 31	September 1 – October 31
Southern	September 1 to October 31	

Hunters must use a shotgun no larger than 10 gauge that is loaded with non-toxic shot. The firearm must only be able to carry three shells in total (two in the magazine and one in the chamber).

It is unlawful to possess any shot other than non-toxic shot for the purpose of hunting these birds. Non-toxic shot is defined as steel shot, tungsten-iron shot, tungsten polymer shot, or bismuth shot.

For more information on migratory game bird hunting regulations, see: www.ec.gc.ca/rcom-mbhr/default.asp?lang=En&n=F566470E-1 and www.ec.gc.ca/rcom-mbhr/default.asp?lang=En&n=5B13E761-1.

! Game Management Subzone Boundary Clarification

Where the boundary of a Game Management Subzone (GMS) follows the line of a road, creek, river, lake or the channel of a river, it shall, unless otherwise clearly indicated, be deemed to follow the centre of that line.

For management purposes, when a boundary follows the centre line of a river, lake, or the channel of a river and this line crosses an island wholly or partially, and two different management regulations are in place on either side of the island, the least restrictive regulation will apply for the entire island.

When an island lies off the center of the line of a river, lake or the channel of the river and is not crossed by a boundary line, it will be deemed to be inside the GMS and the regulations for that GMS apply.

The Yukon government does not test or endorse products and services offered in the advertising section of this booklet. Consumer comments should be directed to the appropriate retailer.

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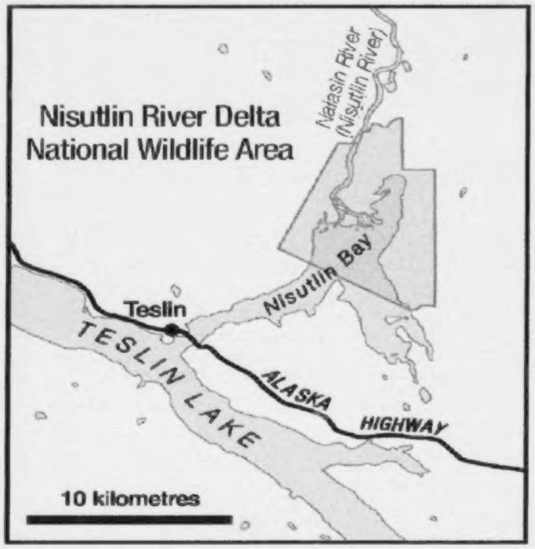
Public Notice

Restricted Activities Within the Nisutlin River Delta National Wildlife Area

The Nisutlin River Delta National Wildlife Area (NWA) protects a fall staging area for migratory waterfowl. Federal regulations prohibit and restrict many activities within the NWA.


Nisutlin River Delta National Wildlife Area
Natasin River (Nisutlin River)
Nisutlin Bay
Teslin
TESLIN LAKE
ALASKA HIGHWAY
10 kilometres

A person authorized to hunt in Yukon may also hunt for same in the Nisutlin River Delta NWA. Hunting must be conducted in a manner that is not inconsistent with the Yukon *Wildlife Act* and regulations. Hunting of waterfowl is also authorized, subject to the limits and conditions outlined in the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* and regulations. Federal migratory game bird hunting permits and the regulations summary are available at Canada Post outlets or online at www.permis-permits.ec.gc.ca.

All-terrain vehicles (ATVs), air boats, motorized personal watercraft and hovercraft are prohibited within the NWA. For a complete list of restricted activities, contact Environment and Climate Change Canada's Canadian Wildlife Service at 1-867-393-6700 (Whitehorse), toll-free at 1-800-668-6767 or email enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca. To report NWA fish and wildlife violations, call Environment and Climate Change Canada's Wildlife Enforcement Directorate at 1-888-569-5656.

Hazardous Materials Warning

Hunters should be aware of the potential hazards of military debris within the NWA. Be advised that Nisutlin Bay, including the area within the Nisutlin River Delta NWA, is a former bombing range that was used by the Department of National Defence as a training area for aircraft. Military explosives and hazardous debris may remain in Nisutlin Bay and could cause serious injury or death.

What to do if you see a suspicious object on land or in water: Do not disturb it.

Contact the RCMP at:

1-867-390-5555 (Teslin)
1-867-667-5555 (Whitehorse)

Do not use a cellular or satellite telephone near the object.

To obtain more information on unexploded explosive ordnance, please visit the Department of National Defence's Unexploded Explosive Ordnance and Legacy Sites Program website at **www.uxocanada.forces.gc.ca**.

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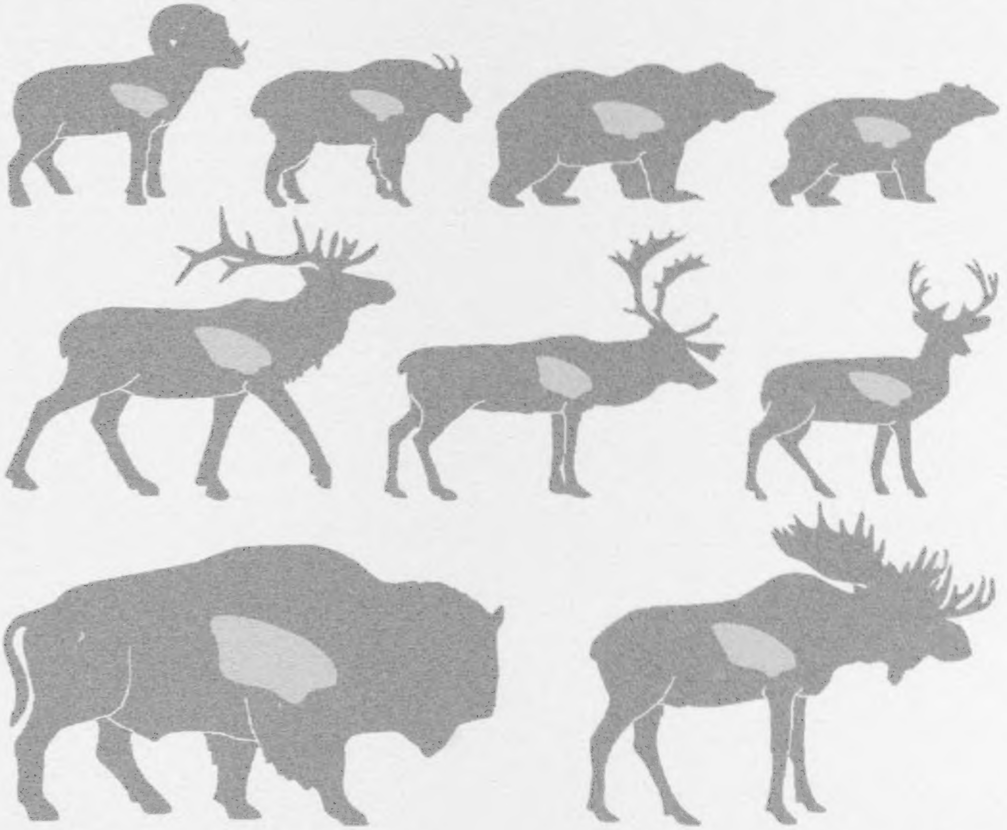
Vital Target Areas of Big Game Species

All hunters should strive to kill the animal in the quickest and most humane manner to prevent wounding losses. Remember, your first shot is the most important.

In addition:

- Ensure you have sighted your firearm with the ammunition you intend to use prior to your hunt and understand the limitations of your ability and those of your firearm.
- Use **premium quality ammunition** that possesses bullet characteristics designed for the type of wildlife you are hunting.
- Practice shooting your firearm from different firing positions to become confident and competent.
- Use a rest or support whenever practical or use a shooting stick to support your rifle.
- Aim for the vital target area of the animal (see figures below). This is located behind the front shoulder and contains the heart, lungs and liver. A well-placed shot in this area is the most effective means of killing an animal.
- Avoid head and neck shots. These are not recommended as they often result in prolonged suffering, especially if you cannot locate the wounded animal.



Vital target areas adapted from *The Perfect Shot, North America: Shot Placement for North American Big Game* by Craig Boddington (Safari Press, 2002).

Only male moose can be hunted.

Attaching the Seal

Moose seals can be attached around the base of an antler or the tendon of a hind quarter. See **page 5** for more information about seals.

Evidence of Sex and Species

The head or skull attached to the antlers or the scrotum attached to the carcass are considered evidence of sex for moose. You must keep evidence of sex until you get the carcass home or until a Conservation Officer has inspected it.

Mandatory Kill Reporting

Everyone who harvests a moose must report the kill to an Environment Yukon office no later than **15 days** after the end of the month in which the moose was killed or upon the request of a Conservation Officer. See **page 25**.

Faro Threshold Hunt

A threshold hunt for moose is in place for the area covered by Game Management Subzones **4–44, 4-45 and 4–46** (around Faro). Successful moose hunters in these subzones must report their harvest within **72 hours** of the kill. Reports can be made either to the Faro Conservation Officer at 867-994-2862, the Environment Yukon main line at 867-667-5652 during normal business hours Monday through Friday, except for statutory holidays, or the TIPP line at 1-800-661-0525 on weekends or after hours. You must still complete a regular kill report form through an Environment Yukon office either in person or by phone.

The harvest will be tracked through the season. **If the allowable harvest of 15 for the area is reached, subzones 4-44, 4-45 and 4-46 will be closed for the remainder of the season.** The allowable harvest includes moose harvested by all licensed hunters in the area. Information will be updated on a regular basis. Please pay attention to signs, radio and newspaper ads, and look for updates on the Environment Yukon website.

Special guiding for moose by non-residents in GMS 4-44, 4-45 or 4-46 is prohibited.

Cabins and active traplines — Do Not Disturb

Many of the cabins you'll find in the backcountry belong to licensed trappers who use them during the winter. Please do not disturb these cabins or any traps or equipment you find in wilderness areas. Chances are that someone is counting on that cabin to be in good shape, equipment to be in place and traps to remain undisturbed.

Wanted: Biological Samples From Yukon Moose

Samples requested by the Animal Health Unit: hides, whole heads, fecal matter, and any abnormal body parts or organs. For more information, see **page 86**.

To support winter tick monitoring, successful hunters are requested to deliver the complete hide (legs not required) or the front half of the hide ending at the mid-back area to an Environment Yukon office. The hides will be examined for the presence of winter ticks and can be returned to the hunter upon request.

Population Outlook

Moose densities throughout Yukon generally range between 100 and 250 moose for every 1,000 km^2 of suitable moose habitat, although densities in excess of 400 moose for every 1,000 km^2 have been recorded in a few areas. Yukon moose densities are relatively low when compared to those observed in other regions of North America as they co-exist with three relatively intact predator populations (wolves, black bears and grizzly bears).

Moose are managed in 62 Moose Management Units (MMU). An MMU can consist of as few as one or as many as 23 Game Management Subzones. For a map of all Yukon MMUs, visit: www.env.gov.yk.ca/mmu. Boundaries of these MMUs are updated periodically when new information is available.

Survey efforts are focused in MMUs where harvest rates are high and/or where moose declines have occurred. High harvest rates are linked to access. In 2015, Environment Yukon conducted early winter population surveys of MMUs in the Alsek and Dawson areas (Dawson Gold Fields, Granite Creek, Dazadeash River, Takhanne River and Tatshenshini River) and a recruitment (calf survival) survey in the Cultus/Jarvis River/Paint Mountain MMUs (see map on **page 40**). In addition, Environment Yukon collaborated with Kluane National Park and the Government of British Columbia to extend the population survey into the park and south into B.C.

For more information on recent moose surveys, see:
www.env.gov.yk.ca/publications-maps/plansreports.php#moose

Hunt Wisely

Kluane River/Duke River MMU (GMS 5-18, 5-20, 5-21, 6-08, 6-09)

Harvest of moose in the Kluane/Duke River area is estimated to be at or above sustainable levels. In response, the Yukon government, the Kluane First Nation, the local Renewable Resources Council and Parks Canada are working collaboratively on a strategy to achieve sustainable harvest of moose in this area. Important parts of the strategy include reducing total harvest and promoting the use of alternative meat sources, such as fish and bison, for the community. Education and communication measures related to this community initiative are ongoing.

Tatchun MMU (GMS 3-20, 4-12, 4-13, 4-14, 4-15)

Results of the 2014 survey of moose in the Tatchun area indicate a low density of moose, and current harvest levels are estimated to be at or above sustainable levels. In response, the Yukon government and the local First Nations and Renewable Resources Councils will be working collaboratively to achieve sustainable harvest of moose in this area.

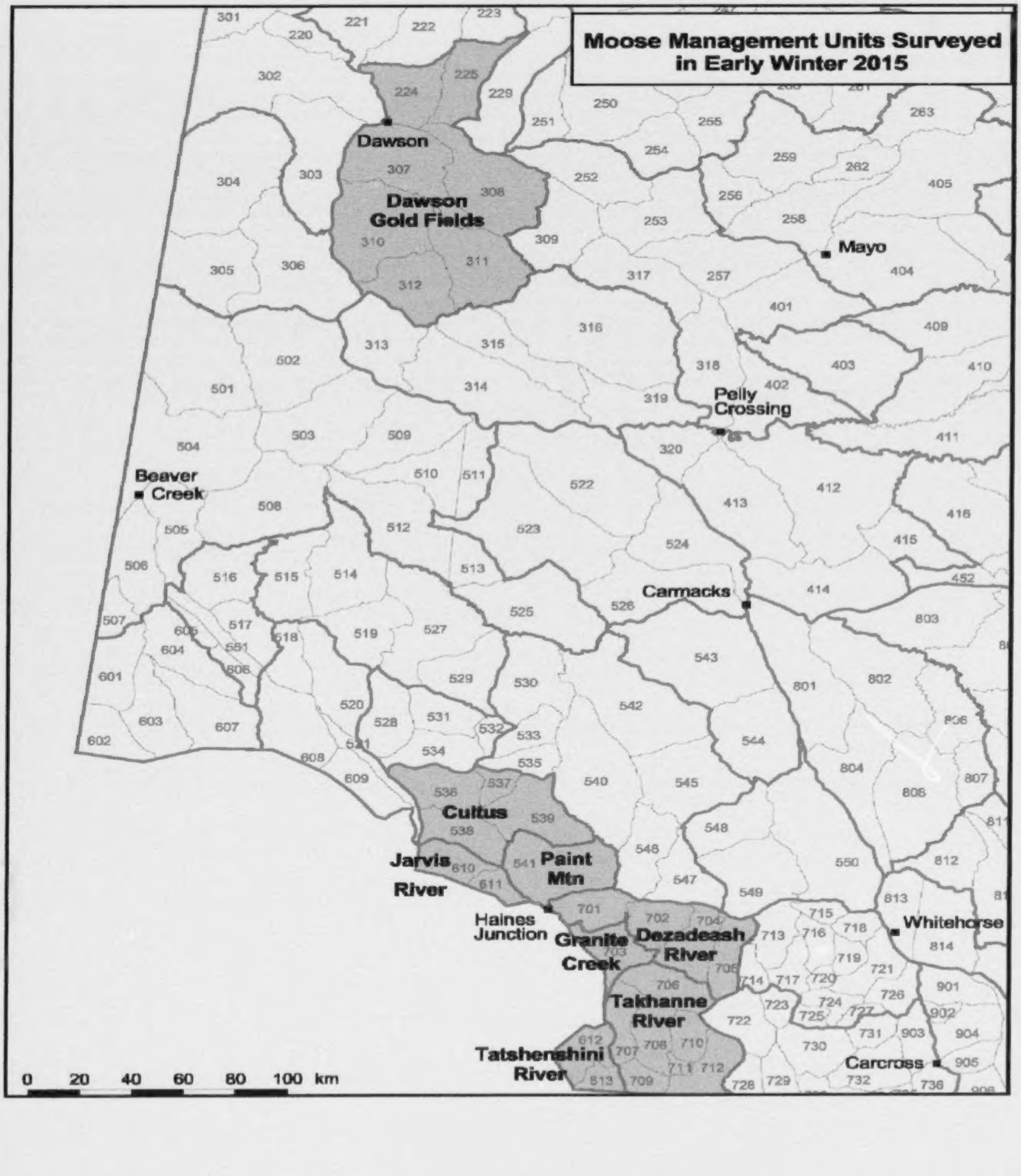
Mayo MMU (GMS 2-56, 2-58, 2-59, 2-62, 2-63, 4-04, 4-05, 4-06)

Surveys of moose in the Mayo area in 2006 and 2011 indicated a low number of bulls compared to the number of cows, reflecting high harvest levels, and local knowledge suggests that numbers of moose in the area have been declining since then. The Yukon government is working with the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun and the Mayo Renewable Resources Council to monitor the population and achieve sustainable harvest of moose in this area.

? *Hunting Moose or Bison? Plan to Share the Meat*

An adult moose can provide a few hundred kilograms of dressed meat. A mature bull bison is even larger and can yield more than 240 kilograms—or one third more than a large bull moose. Be prepared to deal with this meat! Licensed hunters must tag their kill, but can share the meat with friends or donate it to a local charity. See "Cancelling Seals" on ***page 5*** *for requirements for transporting shared or donated meat.*

Frozen, properly wrapped meat can last for three or four years without detracting from its quality. Freezer burnt meat can be used for making sausage. Clearing the freezer of past years' wild meat by disposing of it, donating it to mushers, or feeding it to dogs is disrespectful to the wildlife and an offence under the Wildlife Act.


Moose Management Units Surveyed in Early Winter 2015
Dawson
Dawson Gold Fields
Mayo
Pelly Crossing
Beaver Creek
Carmacks
Cultus
Jarvis River
Paint Mtn
Haines Junction
Granite Creek
Dezadeash River
Takhanne River
Tatshenshini River
Whitehorse
Carcross
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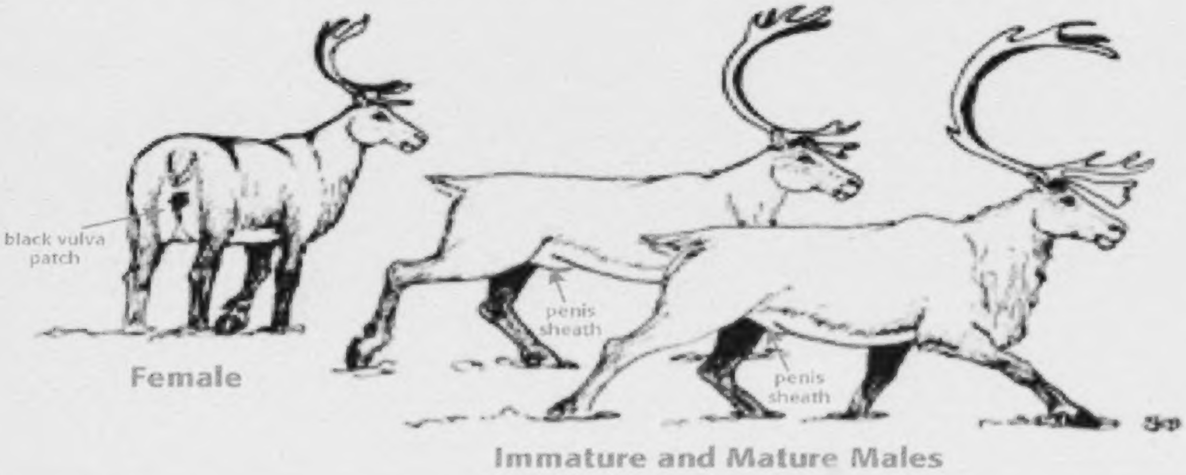
Females and immature males have similar antlers. Take a closer look.



Only male caribou can be hunted.

Male Caribou During Rut

The meat of a large bull (male) caribou during rut may not be palatable due to its very strong taste. The harvesting of mature bulls during the rut, which typically takes place in October, is not recommended.

Attaching the Seal

Caribou seals can be attached around the base of an antler or the tendon on a hind quarter. See **page 5** for more information about seals.

Evidence of Sex and Species

The penis, testicles or scrotum attached to the carcass are considered evidence of sex for caribou. You must keep evidence of sex until you get the carcass home or until a Conservation Officer has inspected it.

Mandatory Kill Reporting

Everyone who harvests a caribou must report the kill to an Environment Yukon office no later than **15 days** after the end of the month in which the caribou was harvested or upon the request of a Conservation Officer. See **page 25**.

Chisana Caribou Herd

The Chisana caribou herd has been removed from the specially protected list but is not open to hunting. From 2003 to 2006, captive rearing was used to stabilize the herd. The herd is now estimated at 700 caribou. The *Management Plan for the Chisana Caribou Herd* allows for a hunt if or when conditions permit. No hunting is proposed at this time.

Caribou

Wanted: Biological Samples from Yukon Caribou

Samples requested by the Animal Health Unit: hide, whole head, parasites (if present), fecal matter, and any abnormal body parts or organs. For more information, see **page 86**.

To support winter tick monitoring, successful hunters are requested to deliver the complete hide (legs not required) or the front half of the hide ending at the mid-back area to an Environment Yukon office. The hides will be examined for the presence of winter ticks and can be returned to the hunter upon request.

Population Outlook

Environment Yukon staff are collecting data from more than 400 radio-collared caribou. For more information, see "Collared Wildlife" on **page 26**.

Recruitment (Calf Survival) Surveys

Environment Yukon and its partners conduct annual fall surveys to assess recruitment (numbers of calves entering the adult population) on herds throughout Yukon. In 2015, 10 herds were surveyed. The average recruitment was 23 calves per 100 cows, a level that is sufficient to allow for a stable herd growth rate. This is slightly higher than in 2014, and at Yukon's long-term average.

Hart River Caribou Herd

The Hart River caribou herd is a woodland herd located northwest of Dawson City. Its range is bisected by the Dempster Highway. In 2015, Environment Yukon deployed GPS radio collars to provide enhanced information on the herd's distribution and to identify important seasonal habitats used by the herd. These collars also assist staff in identifying overlap between the Hart River herd and the larger Porcupine and Fortymile barren-ground herds. These collars were also used during a population survey in the fall of 2015. During that survey, the herd's size was estimated at approximately 2,660 animals. This is a slight increase since the previous estimate of 2,200 animals obtained in 2006.

For more information on recent caribou surveys, see: www.env.gov.yk.ca/publications-maps/plansreports.php#caribou.

Hunt Wisely

Little Rancheria Caribou Herd

Little Rancheria caribou can be found in Game Management Subzones 10-29 to 10-32 and 11-29 in the fall and winter after they spend the spring and summer in northern British Columbia. The last population survey estimated the herd to be around 1,000 animals. In considering information on this herd over the last 10 years, it is likely that the combined harvest from British Columbia and Yukon, and vehicle collision mortality, is resulting in losses from this herd that may be at or above the sustainable limit. Please keep this in mind when you plan your caribou hunt this year.

Ethel Lake Caribou Herd (GMS 4–01 to 4–04, 4–09, 4–10)

Environment Yukon asks all hunters not to hunt the Ethel Lake caribou herd. The First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun and the Selkirk First Nation are asking their citizens to refrain from hunting this herd as well.

Caribou

This is a small herd of around 300 animals. Surveys have shown that few calves born in this herd have survived to adulthood in the past 15 years. That means adult caribou removed as a result of hunting and natural causes are not being replaced so the herd cannot sustain the harvest. The Mayo District Renewable Resources Council has recommended all hunters avoid harvesting from this herd until calf survival improves.

Fortymile Caribou Herd

The Fortymile caribou are a barren-ground herd once thought to range between Fairbanks and Lake Laberge while numbering in the hundreds of thousands. Unfortunately this herd was reduced to around 6,500 caribou by the 1970s. Significant recovery efforts by agencies and communities in Alaska and Yukon since 1995 have brought this herd back to around 50,000 caribou. In October 2013, the herd returned to parts of its historic Yukon range not used since the 1950s, including areas along the lower Dempster Highway. Yukon licensed hunters and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in citizens have elected not to hunt this herd to help expand its range and increase its population. Check with Environment Yukon prior to setting out on hunts up the lower Dempster Highway to ensure hunting closures are not in effect.

Wood Bison

Permit Required

Wood bison are open to hunting by permit only. See **page 8**.

Minimum Firearm Requirements for Hunting Wood Bison

- A centre fire rifle, .30 calibre or larger, with minimum 180 grain bullets (premium bullets strongly recommended) and minimum 2800 ft/lbs energy at the muzzle. (A .30-06 calibre is the baseline rifle.)

OR

- A black powder rifle, .50 calibre or larger, firing an elongated bullet with a minimum 90 grain charge and minimum 2800 ft/lbs energy at the muzzle.

OR

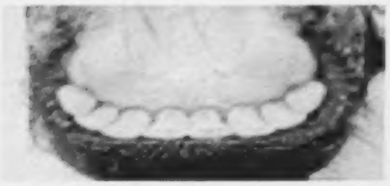
- A black powder rifle, .54 calibre or larger, firing a round ball with a minimum 120 grain charge and minimum 2800 ft/ibs energy at the muzzle. (This option, while legal, is not recommended.)

Note: Hunters using a black powder rifle must have a centre fire rifle accessible as back up.

Bows may not be used to hunt bison.

Attaching the Seal

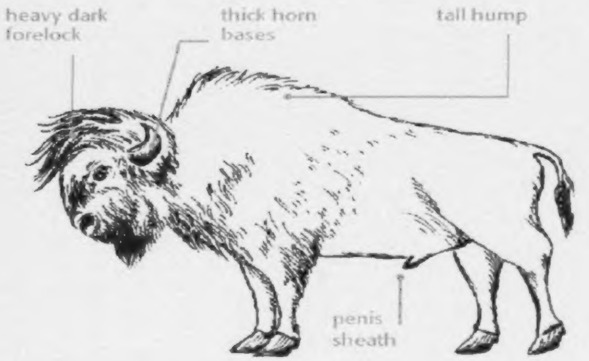
Bison seals should be attached to the tendon on a hind quarter. See **page 5** for more information about seals.



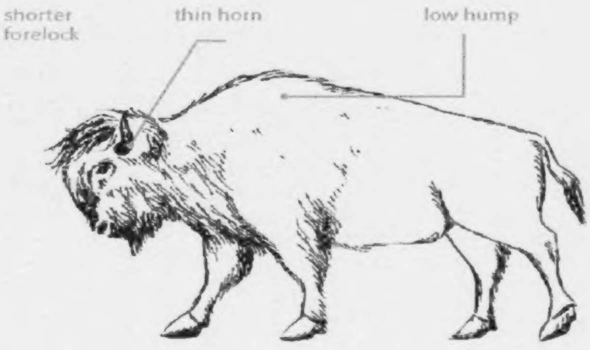
An incisor bar for compulsory submission. Please leave some meat or hair on it for DNA testing.

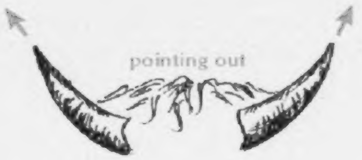
Wood Bison

Male


heavy dark forelock
thick horn bases
tall hump
penis sheath

Female


shorter forelock
thin horn
low hump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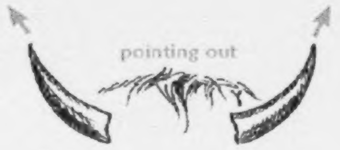
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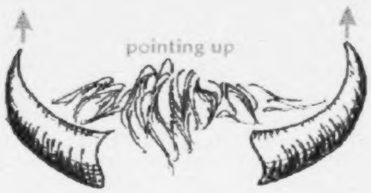
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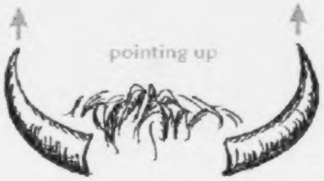
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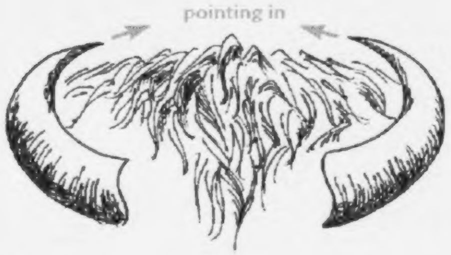
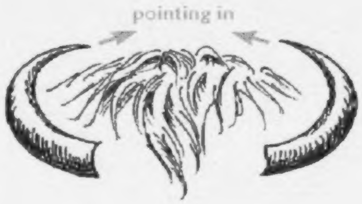
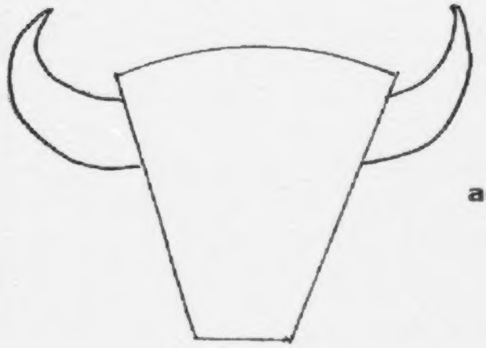

pointing in

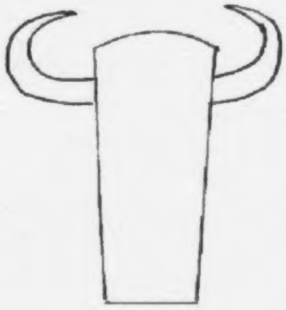
6 yrs +

older bison may have broken horn tips


pointing in



adult head shape



Mandatory Reporting & Compulsory Submission

When you kill a bison, you must report the harvest to an Environment Yukon office within **10 days**. You must deliver the incisor bar to a Conservation Officer or wildlife technician no later than **15 days** after the end of the month in which the bison was killed or upon the request of a Conservation Officer. Any meat/hair left on the incisor bar will be used for ongoing DNA studies.

Population Outlook

Bison were reintroduced to Yukon in the late 1980s as part of the national program to recover an endangered species. Since the release of 170 bison about 25 years ago, the herd has grown to 1,200–1,400 animals and expanded its range into the Aishihik, Sekulmun and Hutshi lakes watersheds.

While wolves are now preying on bison, hunting is still the primary means of limiting the herd's size. Limitation of the herd's size—through hunting—is a stated objective of 2012 bison management plan. Since 1998, more than 1,900 bison have been harvested, with about 60 per cent of these being male and 40 per cent being female. In the 2015-2016 season, 175 bison were taken by hunters.

The Aishihik Wood Bison Herd provides hunters with an alternative to moose and caribou. A large bull bison can weigh up to 1,000 kg (2,200 lb) on the hoof, while an adult cow bison weights about 450 to 630 kg (1,000 to 1,400 lb). Even though most of the bison's weight is in the head and viscera, an average bison yields about 240 kg (525 lb) of meat.

Environment Yukon staff are collecting data from around 45 radio-collared animals. For more information, see "Collared Wildlife" on **page 26**.

Hunt Wisely

Hunters are encouraged to harvest cow bison. Population projections suggest that an increased harvest of cows will help to achieve the population size needed to keep the herd at the population objective of near 1,000 animals. If there is more than one hunter with a permit and seal in the party, consider taking the calf in addition to the cow. Please take the extra time to identify and harvest a cow.

Wounding loss is a serious concern for this herd. Wounded bison can suffer for years from bullet injuries and in many cases die a slow, painful death. It is important to make every effort to track down and kill a bison you have wounded.

Bison hunters are reminded to respect active traplines and to limit disturbance to area residents and all wildlife, including bison, while hunting during the winter.

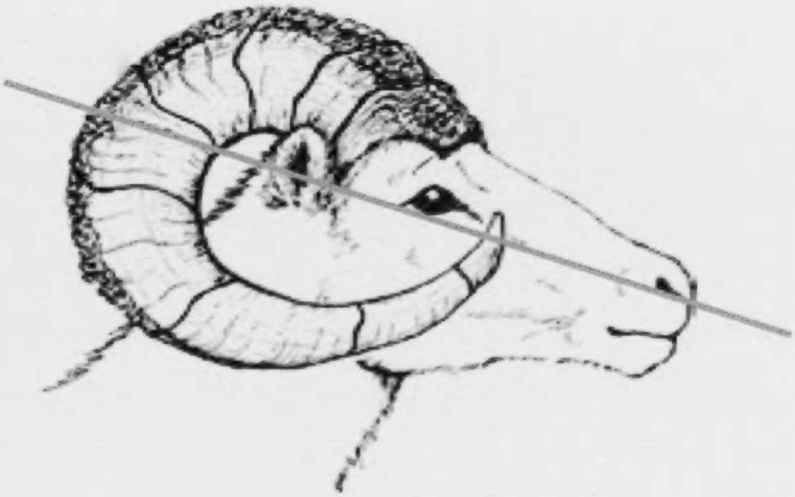
Refer to the *Hunt Wisely: Bison* brochure available online or from any Environment Yukon office for more information on planning a successful hunt.

NOTE: Permission from the applicable First Nation is required to hunt bison on all Category A and Category B settlement land. See page 13–14 for details.

Detailed maps of the bison core range including Category A and Category B settlement lands are available to view or purchase at Environment Yukon offices and to view online or download from: www.env.gov.yk.ca/bison.

Disturbance by snow machine during winter months can keep bison and other wildlife from getting enough food and rest. Please be mindful of unnecessary disturbance while you're out on your sled.

Sheep



When viewed from the side, with horn bases aligned, a full-curl male has at least one horn that extends beyond a line running from the centre of the nostril through the lowermost edge of the eye. Check the horns carefully. **Sheep horns viewed from below can appear longer than they really are**. A full curl male is illustrated above.

Environment Yukon is concerned about the number of undersize sheep killed in recent years. Conservation Officers investigate each incident closely.

If you are not absolutely sure it's a full curl ram, DON'T SHOOT.

! **Female mountain sheep and young are protected from hunting.**

Male sheep with horns less than full curl are protected unless they are eight years of age or older as determined by growth rings on the horns. Some hunters have shot under curl sheep with the mistaken belief they were older than eight years. This can lead to serious consequences, including charges under the *Wildlife Act*.

Attaching the Seal

Mountain sheep seals can be attached through an eye socket or nostril. See **page 5** for more information about seals.

Evidence of Sex and Species

The horns attached to the head or skull, or the scrotum attached to the carcass, are considered evidence of sex for sheep. You must keep evidence of sex until you get the carcass home or until a Conservation Officer has inspected it.

Compulsory Submission

When you kill a mountain sheep, you must deliver the horns attached to the skull including the eye sockets to a Conservation Officer or wildlife technician no later than **15 days** after the end of the month in which the sheep was killed or upon the request of a Conservation Officer.

Please skin the head and remove all tissue from behind the horns before you bring the submission to an Environment Yukon office. A whole head will not fit in the measuring jig, especially if it is frozen.

Identification Plugs

All sheep horns submitted for inspection will have a metal identification plug inserted by a Conservation Officer or wildlife technician. These numbered plugs are necessary to combat theft and the illegal trade in sheep horns. It is unlawful for anyone but a Conservation Officer or wildlife technician to remove or tamper with a plug.

Kluane Wildlife Sanctuary Sheep Permit

The Kluane First Nation Final Agreement allows two sheep permits to be offered annually in the Kluane Wildlife Sanctuary, at the discretion of the Minister of Environment and the First Nation. One permit goes to a resident Yukon hunter through the permit hunt process. See **pages 6-7**. The second permit is auctioned to a non-resident hunter who will be guided by a Yukon outfitter. Non-resident hunters can contact the Kluane First Nation for more information about the auction.

Wanted: Biological Samples From Yukon Sheep

Samples requested by the Animal Health Unit: any abnormal body parts or organs. For more information, see **page 86**.

Population Outlook

In an effort to obtain a better understanding of sheep recruitment across Yukon that was more representative of the entire territory rather than based on a single population, Environment Yukon initiated a program to monitor lamb recruitment for selected populations. In 2015, Environment Yukon conducted recruitment surveys of five sheep populations distributed across Yukon. The average lamb to nursery sheep ratio, an index of lamb recruitment into the population, was 29 lambs per 100 nursery sheep. A value of 25–30 lambs per 100 nursery sheep is generally sufficient to maintain a stable population.

For more information on recent sheep surveys, see: www.env.gov.yk.ca/publications-maps/plansreports.php#sheep.

Sheep

Hunt Wisely

Over the past several years, Environment Yukon has become aware of the proliferation of trails into thinhorn sheep ranges, particularly where these occur near major transportation corridors in south-central and southwestern Yukon. Increased use of existing trails and expanding trail networks may lead to increased disturbance and displacement of sheep from traditional ranges. This can also lead to unsustainable rates of harvest. Please consider this when planning your sheep hunt.

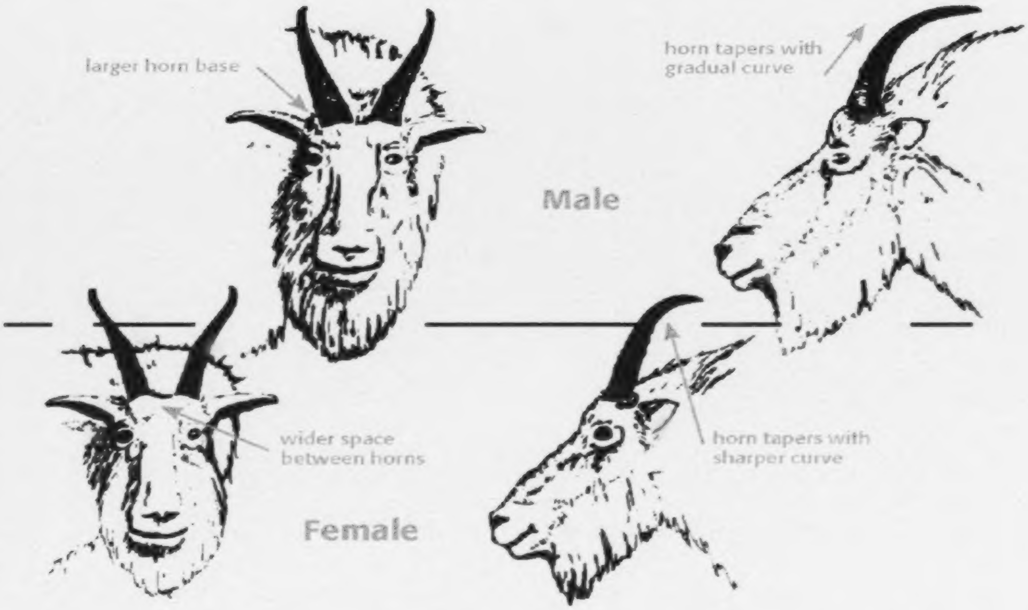
! Steps to Selecting Full Curl Rams

- Seek advice from experienced, successful sheep hunters and/or professional guides before you hunt.
- Study live sheep, sheep photos, sheep horns and mounted sheep, especially at various angles.
- Use the finest quality optics that you can afford (binoculars and spotting scope with tripod).
- View sheep squarely from the side. Viewing sheep from below makes the horns look longer than they are.
- Do not depend on using annuli (growth rings on the horns) to determine legality. False annuli can and do occur on sheep horns.
- Calm yourself before deciding whether the ram in your sight is legal or not. Adrenaline and the excitement of the hunt may impair your judgement.
- Compare what you see to the diagram on **page 46**. Use it as a final reference in the field.
- Sheep cannot and should not be aged from above.

It is best to harvest the oldest rams possible.

? *Select Legal Sheep*

Brush up on your ability to identify legal full-curl rams by viewing the video "Yukon Sheep ID" on Environment Yukon's YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/environmentyukon.


larger horn base
horn tapers with gradual curve
Male
wider space between horns
horn tapers with sharper curve
Female

Mountain goats have lower population growth rates than other ungulates, and adult female survival strongly influences whether or not a population is increasing or decreasing. You are encouraged to select male goats. Males tend to be solitary and are up to 30 per cent larger than females. They stretch forward to urinate, while females squat. The most effective way to identify a male is by stalking close enough to study the size and shape of the horns.

Female mountain goats with young are protected from hunting.

Attaching the Seal

Mountain goat seals can be attached to the hide, through the eye socket or nostril. See **page 5** for more information about seals.

Evidence of Sex and Species

The horns attached to the head or skull, or the scrotum attached to the carcass, are considered evidence of sex and species for goats. You must keep evidence of sex until you get the carcass home or until a Conservation Officer has inspected it.

Compulsory Submission

When you kill a mountain goat, you must deliver the horns attached to the skull to a Conservation Officer or wildlife technician no later than **15 days** after the end of the month in which the goat was killed or upon the request of a Conservation Officer.

Goats

Wanted: Biological Samples From Yukon Goats

Samples requested by the Animal Health Unit: any abnormal body parts or organs. For more information, see **page 86**.

Population Outlook

Mountain goats are relatively uncommon in Yukon where they are at the northern limit of their range. An estimated 1,700 goats are found in the lower third of the territory, mainly in isolated pockets in the southwest and in the Logan Mountains north of Watson Lake. More than half of Yukon's mountain goats live in Kluane National Park and the adjoining Kluane Wildlife Sanctuary.

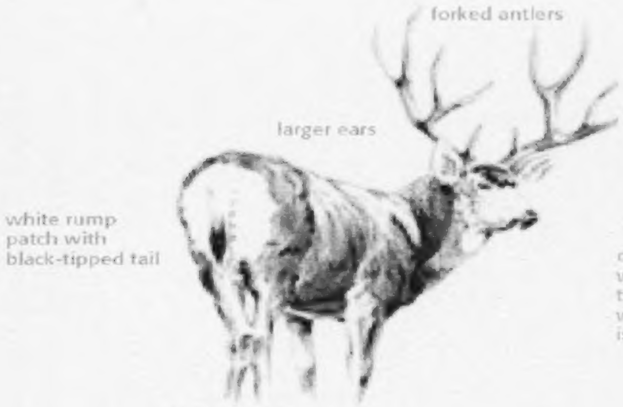
Goat management decisions must be made with caution because of the nature of this species. When threatened, goats run to cliffs where they are out of reach of natural predators, but not hunters. Their range use is strongly traditional and predictable because of specialized habitat requirements. While these traits assist goat hunters, they can also make goats vulnerable to over-harvest. Small populations (less than 50) may not withstand any harvest. Populations ranging from 50-100 may withstand a very low level of harvest. Since goats are difficult to census, our ability to identify population declines is limited.

? *There Were Hunters Here Before*

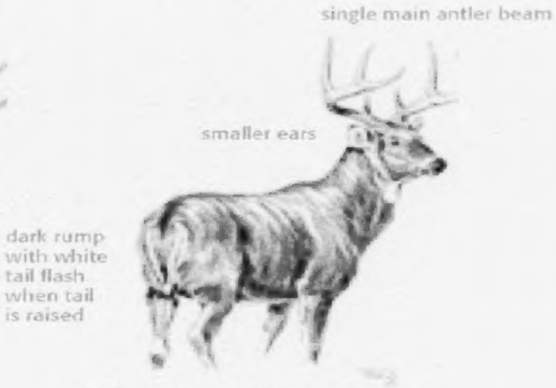
As you hunt in alpine areas you may find traces of other hunters who have used these areas over thousands of years. Ancient animal remains and prehistoric artifacts are occasionally found in alpine areas. These items provide scientists with valuable information about the past and about ecological changes over time.

Please report any findings to the Yukon government's Historic Sites office or to the local First Nation. Your cooperation will help add to our knowledge of Yukon's past. Please be aware that it is unlawful to disturb or remove objects from these sites.

For more information, contact the Historic Sites office at 867-667-5386 or toll free at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5386.


forked antlers
larger ears
white rump patch with black-tipped tail

Mule Deer


single main antler beam
smaller ears
dark rump with white tail flash when tail is raised

White-Tailed Deer

Only male deer can be hunted.

Permit Hunt Only

Licensed hunters who wish to hunt deer must apply for a permit through the Permit Hunt Authorization (PHA) lottery system. See **pages 6-7**. First Nation beneficiaries are entitled to harvest deer under their subsistence rights as of the effective date of their settled Final Agreements.

Interest in the deer hunt continues to be high with 400 to 500 adult hunters applying for the 10 PHAs issued each year. Two additional PHAs are issued each year specifically to young hunters. Between four and 10 deer have been harvested each year since the hunt began. Five were harvested in 2015.

Attaching the Seal

Deer seals can be attached around the base of an antler or the tendon of a hind quarter. See **page 5** for more information about seals.

Evidence of Sex and Species

The head or skull attached to the antlers, or the scrotum attached to the carcass, are considered evidence of sex for deer. You must keep evidence of sex until you get the carcass home or until a Conservation Officer has inspected it.

Compulsory Submission

When you kill a deer, you must deliver the incisor bar and the antlers attached to all or part of the skull to a Conservation Officer or wildlife technician no later than **15 days** after the end of the month in which the deer was killed or upon the request of a Conservation Officer.

Wanted: Biological Samples From Yukon Deer

Samples requested by the Animal Health Unit: hides, whole heads, fecal matter, and any abnormal body parts or organs. For more information see **page 86**.

To support winter tick monitoring, successful hunters are requested to deliver the complete hide (legs not required) or the front half of the hide ending at the mid-back area to an Environment Yukon office. The hides will be examined for the presence of winter ticks and can be returned to the hunter upon request.

Population Outlook

Both mule and white-tailed deer occur naturally in many parts of south and central Yukon. Reports date back to at least the early 1920s with mule deer reported much more frequently than white-tailed deer. A steady increase in sighting reports and road kills in recent years indicate that deer have been increasing in numbers and expanding their range. Deer are now seen regularly as far north as Dawson City and the southern Dempster Highway. Deer in Yukon are at the northern extreme of their range and, as such, are vulnerable to severe winters.

Studies are now underway to evaluate different means of estimating deer relative distribution and abundance.

Hunters are asked to report unusual deer sightings to the Moose, Elk, and Deer Biologist at 867-667-5787. This information helps Environment Yukon track the health and distribution of deer populations throughout Yukon.

? *White-Tailed Deer Especially Rare*

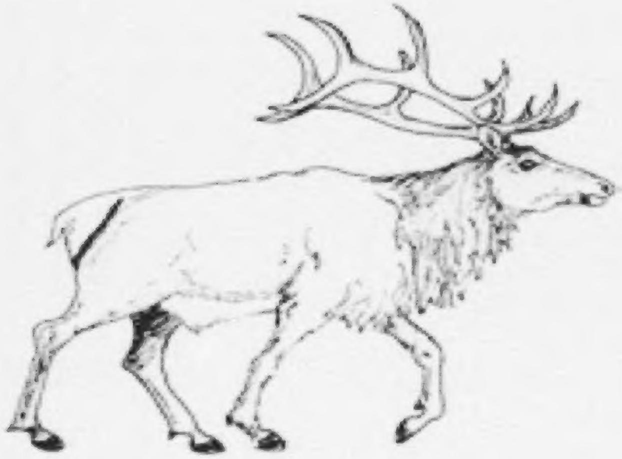
Although the current regulation allows for harvesting either species of deer in Yukon, hunters are asked to voluntarily refrain from killing white-tailed deer. White-tailed deer are far less common than mule deer in Yukon and even a small harvest could be harmful to their population. See the illustration on the previous page for how to distinguish between mule and white-tailed deer.

Considerations When Hunting Deer and Elk (pages 51-54)

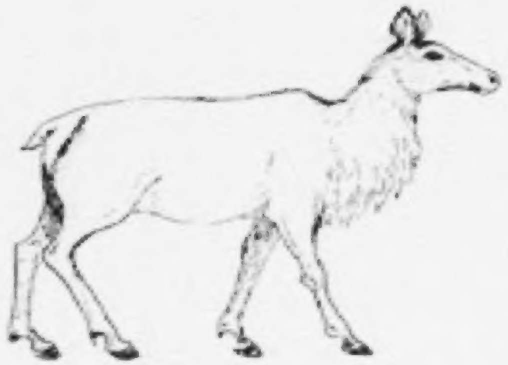
Deer are often seen on south-facing grassland habitats, common along Yukon's highways and river valleys. Elk primarily use aspen parkland and grassland habitats common along highways in southwest Yukon. Both also make use of agricultural areas. Because these are areas also used by people, hunters will be faced with the challenge of managing their hunt in areas where human activity is common. Therefore, hunters are reminded that it is **unlawful** to do the following:

- Hunt within one kilometre of a residence without permission of the occupants.
- Hunt in a way that is likely to cause damage to crops, livestock, domestic animals, or other personal property.
- Hunt in a way that is likely to cause injury to a person.
- Discharge a firearm on or across the travelled portion, which includes the shoulder, of a public road or highway.

Remember to get the appropriate consent to access either private or settlement land prior to hunting.



Male



Female

Permit Hunt Only

Hunting in the elk core and buffer areas is by Permit Hunt Authorization (PHA) only. Elk are open to hunting in the exclusion area with a permit obtained outside the PHA lottery process. See **pages 6–8**.

The permit hunt is part of the 2008 *Management Plan for Elk in the Yukon*, available on the Environment Yukon website or from an Environment Yukon office. Harvest is managed through a zoned approach that recognizes a central core area of relatively consistent occupation, a buffer area where elk are managed to limit distribution and landowner conflicts and an exclusion area to prevent dispersal into other parts of Yukon. A review of the elk management plan was initiated in 2015 and an updated plan is anticipated for 2016-17.

The number of permits issued depends on the level of harvest considered sustainable for the most current estimate of herd size. Permits are time and location specific. Hunting opportunities are managed through the adaptive management provisions of the *Wildlife Regulations*. They may be adjusted periodically based on population and other management objectives. In 2015, all three PHA holders were successful in harvesting elk. As well, two elk were harvested under exclusion area permits. In addition, a total of 11 elk were harvested as part of an elk/agriculture conflict hunt in 2015-16. This hunt is being evaluated and may be available in the 2016-17 harvest season.

Attaching the Seal

Elk seals can be attached around the base of an antler or the tendon of a hind quarter. See **page 5** for more information about seals.

Evidence of Sex and Species

The head or skull attached to the antlers, or the mammary glands or scrotum attached to the carcass, are considered evidence of sex for elk. You must keep evidence of sex until you get the carcass home or until a Conservation Officer has inspected it.

Mandatory Reporting & Compulsory Submission

When you kill an elk, you must report the kill and deliver the complete head and hide (legs not required) to a Conservation Officer or wildlife technician no later than **72 hours** after the elk was killed or upon the request of a Conservation Officer.

Roll up hides hair-side in and place in a bag as soon as possible. They will be tested for the presence of winter ticks. Heads will not be damaged during sampling. Hides and heads can be returned to the hunter upon request.

Wanted: Biological Samples From Yukon Elk

Samples requested by the Animal Health Unit: fecal matter and any abnormal body parts or organs. For more information, see **page 86**.

Collared and Tagged Elk

Environment Yukon takes part in ongoing monitoring to maintain reliable estimates of abundance, distribution, movement patterns and habitat use of elk in the Takhini Valley and Braeburn areas. As part of the monitoring program, there are radio telemetry collars on 31 elk in these areas, and 90 to 120 elk have ear tags. Some of these elk may have been immobilized. See **page 26** for information about shooting collared wildlife in error and eating the meat of collared, tagged or tattooed wildlife.

Population Outlook

Yukon's elk are the furthest north of all elk in North America. With the exception of small numbers moving into southeast Yukon from B.C., they are descended from animals introduced from Alberta's Elk Island National Park in the 1950s and 1990s.

The Takhini herd ranges mainly in the Takhini Valley west of Whitehorse to the Aishihik River. An estimated 200 elk are currently in this herd. The smaller Braeburn herd ranges along the North Klondike Highway between Fox Lake and Carmacks. We estimate the herd contains about 60 animals.

Hunters are asked to report unusual elk sightings to the Moose, Elk and Deer Biologist at 867-667-5787. This information helps Environment Yukon track the health and distribution of elk populations.

NOTE: Permission from the applicable First Nation is required to hunt elk on all Category A and Category B settlement land. See pages 13–14 for details.

Detailed maps of the elk core and buffer areas including Category A and Category B settlement lands are available to view or purchase at Environment Yukon offices and to view online or download from:
www.environmentyukon.ca/maps/view/nav/3/17/.

See illustration under Black Bears, page 57.

❶ All cubs and female grizzly bears with cubs are protected from hunting.

A grizzly bear cub includes any grizzly bear that is less than three years old. Bears that appear to have big ears relative to their head size are probably young bears.

❶ Bait: It is unlawful to use bait for bear hunting.

Attaching the Seal

Grizzly bear seals should be attached to the hide. See **page 5** for more information about seals.

Evidence of Sex and Species

The complete skull together with the baculum (penis bone) or penis sheath and scrotum attached to the hide is considered evidence of sex for a male grizzly bear. The complete skull together with the vulva attached to the hide is considered evidence of sex for a female grizzly bear. You must keep evidence of sex until a Conservation Officer or wildlife technician has completed the mandatory biological inspections.

❶ Compulsory Submission

When you harvest a grizzly bear you must deliver the complete skull and evidence of sex attached to the hide, to a Conservation Officer or wildlife technician no later than **15 days** after the end of the month in which the grizzly bear was taken or upon the request of a Conservation Officer.

One Grizzly Bear Every Three Years

The bag limit for grizzly bears in all open subzones is one bear every three licence years. This means if you shoot a grizzly bear in the 2016-17 season you cannot take another grizzly bear **anywhere in Yukon** until the 2019-20 season.

Selecting Males

As the producer and caregiver for young, females are very important for sustaining grizzly bear populations. Research shows that grizzly bear populations are better able to sustain a harvest that is primarily males.

It is difficult to judge the sex of a bear in the field. Unless you have considerable experience distinguishing males from females, **avoid hunting bears that are travelling together.** Bears travel together as spring breeding pairs, as recently weaned two-or three-year-olds, and as families consisting of females with new cubs, yearlings, or two-year-old offspring.

If you do encounter a solitary bear, these tips may help you determine its sex:

- Adult male grizzly bears are generally dark; they have smooth fur, tiny ears, wide shoulders, square heads, and long necks.
- A female urinates behind her back legs. A male urinates in front of his back legs.
- Grizzly bears found in high alpine areas are most likely to be females.

To help you learn more about identifying the sex and age of Yukon grizzly bears, a 68-minute video, *Take A Closer Look*, is available on loan from your community library or Environment Yukon office. Copies may be purchased from the Yukon Fish and Game Association.

Defending Life or Property

If you are forced to kill a bear in defence of life or property, you must report the kill to a Conservation Officer as soon as possible. You will be required to submit the head and the pelt with claws attached. For more information on your rights and obligations in defending life and property, read about non-hunting kills on **page 23**.

Wanted: Biological Samples From Yukon Bears

Samples requested by the Carnivore Program: specific kill location and small hide sample. For more information, see **page 88**.

Population Outlook

Grizzly bears inhabit the entire Yukon from the B.C. border to Herschel Island-Qikiqtaruk Territorial Park off the Arctic coast. Since Yukon's northern interior environment is less productive than southern or coastal environments, Yukon bears are spread fairly thin over the landscape. The territorial population is estimated at 6,000 to 7,000 animals.

Environment Yukon is working to reduce the number of bears that are destroyed each year because of human-bear conflicts. The reproductive rate of the species is so low that the loss of even a few female bears destroyed in conflicts can have a significant impact on a population. Visit www.env.gov.yk.ca/cosb to learn how you can minimize human-wildlife conflicts in Yukon.

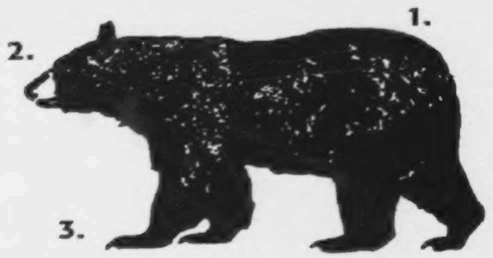
Hunt Wisely

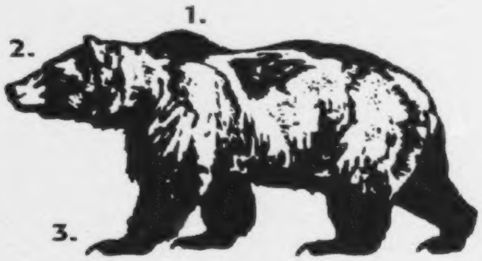
Grizzly Bears in the Ni'iinlii Njik (Fishing Branch) Wilderness Preserve

Environment Yukon asks all hunters not to hunt grizzly bears inside the Ni'iinlii Njik (Fishing Branch) Wilderness Preserve. The Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation is asking its citizens to comply with this request as well.

Bear hunting has been prohibited in the Fishing Branch Ecological Reserve at the centre of this protected area since 1993. Please avoid hunting grizzly bears in the wilderness preserve that surrounds the ecological preserve.

Is It a Black Bear or a Grizzly?





Black Bear

1. Highest point of back is over the hind legs. No prominent shoulder hump.
2. In profile, muzzle is straight and long.
3. Front claws are dark coloured, relatively short and well curved.

Grizzly Bear

1. Highest point of back is muscular hump over front shoulders.
2. In profile, brow gives face a dished or concave look. Not as well defined in yearlings.
3. Front claws are light coloured, 10 cm long or longer, slightly curved.

All cubs and female black bears with cubs are protected from hunting.

A black bear cub includes any black bear that is less than two years old. Any black bears found together in autumn are likely a female and cub family group. They are protected. A female black bear may hide her cubs in a tree for up to five hours while she feeds. Please take the time to make sure that the bear you are hunting is alone.

Bait: It is unlawful to use bait for bear hunting.

Attaching the Seal

Black bear seals can be attached to the hide or skull. See **page 5** for more information about seals.

Compulsory Submission

When you kill a black bear, you must deliver the complete skull to a Conservation Officer or wildlife technician no later than **15 days** after the end of the month in which the black bear was killed or upon the request of a Conservation Officer.

? *Garbage kills bears*

When a bear learns that people are associated with garbage, it can become habituated and may have to be removed from the population. Please pack all of your garbage out of the bush. Burying flattened cans does not work—bears and other animals will soon dig up the site.

It is an offence under the Wildlife Act *to leave food, garbage or other attractants available to bears or other dangerous wildlife. Leaving garbage in the backcountry is also an offence under the* Environment Act.

Defending Life or Property

If you are forced to kill a bear in defence of life or property, you must report the kill to a Conservation Officer as soon as possible. You will be required to submit the head and the pelt with claws attached. For more information on your rights and obligations in defending life and property, read the regulations applying to non-hunting kills on **page 23**.

Wanted: Biological Samples From Yukon Bears

Samples requested by the Carnivore Program: specific kill location and small hide sample. For more information, see **page 88**.

Population Outlook

Black bears are distributed from the B.C.- Yukon border to the northern tree line near Old Crow. They are most numerous in the southern and central parts of the territory. A rough estimate puts the Yukon black bear population at about 10,000 animals.

Yukon's mountainous terrain tends to concentrate the range of the black bear. Unlike the grizzly, this is a forest bear and its range in Yukon is confined to the river valleys and their finger-like strips of forested habitat.

Hunt Wisely

Southern Lakes Black Bears

Information on defence of life and property kills and harvest indicates that black bear mortality in the Southern Lakes region may be high. Please consider this information when you plan your bear hunt this year. For tips on how to reduce human-wildlife conflict, see www.env.gov.yk.ca/cosb.

? *Eat That Bear*

The law does not require you to save the meat when you kill a bear. But if you leave the meat in the bush, you're giving up a lot of decent meals. To eliminate the risk of trichinosis, cook the meat to an internal temperature of 66° C (150°F). If your bear has a strong flavour, marinate the meat overnight or have it made into sausage.

Coyotes, Wolves and Wolverines

Coyotes and wolves may be taken on a big game licence. Wolverines may be taken on a big game licence only by resident hunters and hunters guided by a registered Yukon outfitter. It is unlawful to waste the pelts of these animals.

! Compulsory Pelt Sealing for Wolves

If you kill a wolf you must submit the pelt to a Conservation Officer **by April 15 or BEFORE the pelt is sold or transferred,** whichever comes first. Pelts are sealed with a numbered metal furbearer seal. There is no sealing fee for wolf pelts.

! Compulsory Pelt Sealing for Wolverines

If you kill a wolverine you must submit the pelt to a Conservation Officer **within 15 days of the end of the month in which the animal was killed or BEFORE the pelt is sold or transferred,** whichever comes first. Pelts are sealed with a numbered metal furbearer seal. A $10 sealing fee (GST extra) is charged for wolverine pelts. Note that a permit is required before selling the pelt of a wolverine.

Specially Protected and Other Wildlife

Cougars

Regular reports of cougar sightings suggest cougars are present in low numbers in Yukon. The most recent confirmed sighting was in May 2015, when two cougars near Whitehorse were photographed. Cougar sightings occur in areas where mule deer and elk, its prime food sources, are observed. Please report all cougar sightings to Environment Yukon. **All cougars are protected from hunting.**

For information about safety around cougars, visit: www.env.gov.yk.ca/cougars.

Birds

Gyrfalcon, peregrine falcon and trumpeter swan are protected from hunting.

Muskox

Approximately 200 muskox may be found on the Yukon North Slope throughout the year. Small groups or individual muskox may infrequently be spotted near Eagle Plains, Old Crow and Tombstone Territorial Park. Please report sightings of muskox to the Dawson Regional Biologist at 867-993-6461.

Muskox were removed from the specially protected designation in 2003 but are not open to hunting.

? *Find out more about Yukon protected species and species at risk by visiting www.env.gov.yk.ca/animals-habitat/speciesrisk.*

Caribou Bag Limits for Licensed Hunters

The territory-wide bag limit for licensed hunters is two male caribou. Area limits differ.

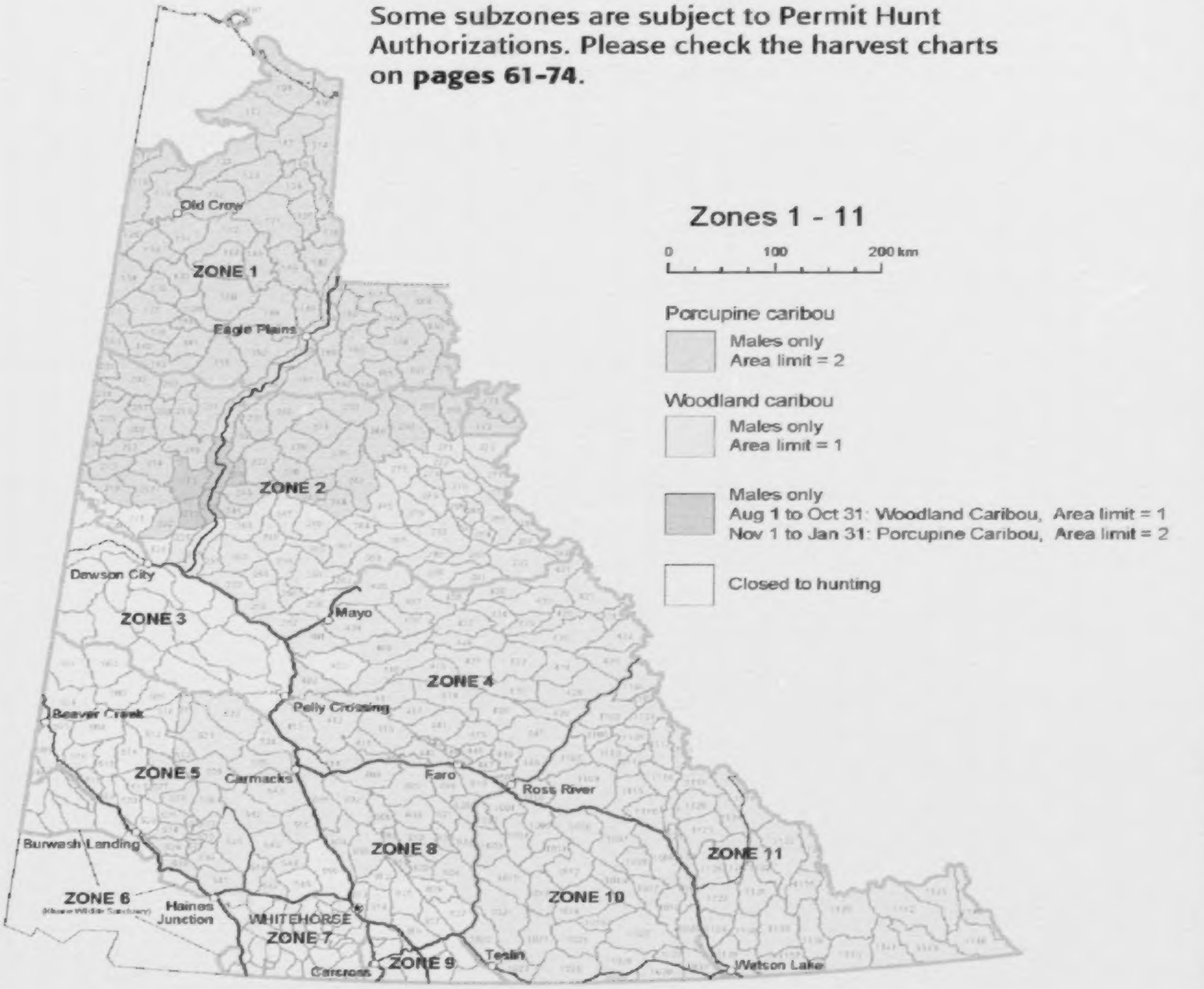
The map below (available in full colour at Environment Yukon offices or from www.environmentyukon.ca/maps/view/nav/3/17) illustrates the different areas.

- All licensed hunters are limited to one male only when hunting woodland caribou in central and southern Yukon.
- All licensed hunters are limited to two males only when hunting Porcupine caribou in northern Yukon.
- All hunters must report their harvest.

Note that subzones 2–16, 2–23, 2–27, 2–28 and 2–39 are the range for Hart River woodland caribou in the fall and also for Porcupine caribou in the winter only if the Porcupine caribou herd is in the area. These subzones will be closed to caribou hunting on October 31 unless Porcupine caribou are in them.

Fortymile caribou subzones 2-19, 2-20, 2-21 and 2-24 are closed to caribou hunting.

Some subzones are subject to Permit Hunt Authorizations. Please check the harvest charts on **pages 61-74**.


Zones 1 - 11
0
100
200 km
Porcupine caribou
Males only
Area limit = 2
Woodland caribou
Males only
Area limit = 1
Males only
Aug 1 to Oct 31: Woodland Caribou, Area limit = 1
Nov 1 to Jan 31: Porcupine Caribou, Area limit = 2
Closed to hunting
Old Crow
ZONE 1
Eagle Plains
ZONE 2
Dawson City
ZONE 3
Mayo
ZONE 4
Pelly Crossing
Beaver Creek
ZONE 5
Carmacks
Faro
Ross River
Burwash Landing
ZONE 8
ZONE 11
ZONE 6
Haines Junction
WHITEHORSE
ZONE 7
ZONE 10
ZONE 9
Teslin
Carcross
Watson Lake

Special Area Restrictions

Ivvavik National Park, Vuntut National Park, Herschel Island Qikiqtaruk Territorial Park

These parks are closed to licensed hunting. Inuvialuit beneficiaries have the exclusive right to hunt within Ivvavik National Park and Herschel Island-Qikiqtaruk Territorial Park for subsistence purposes. Vuntut Gwitchin beneficiaries have the exclusive right to hunt within Vuntut National Park for subsistence purposes.

Note: Subzones 1–02, 1–03, 1–06 to 1–11, 1–16 and 1–20 are now part of Ivvavik and Vuntut National Parks and do not appear on the map or the harvest chart.

Dempster Highway Development Corridor

The Dempster Highway development corridor extends to eight kilometres on either side of the centre line of the Dempster Highway from kilometre 68 to the Northwest Territories border.

- **Off-road vehicles:** Off-road use of vehicles including all terrain vehicles and motorized trail bikes is prohibited within the Dempster Highway development corridor.
- **Snowmobiles:** The use of snowmobiles is prohibited within the Dempster Highway development corridor until the ground is covered with snow. Restrictions on snowmobile use will be lifted each fall when conditions are right, and will be advertised in local media and on the Environment Yukon website.

Ni'iinlii Njik (Fishing Branch) Wilderness Preserve

Environment Yukon respectfully asks all hunters not to hunt grizzly bears inside the Ni'iinlii Njik Wilderness Preserve. Please see **page 56** for more information.

Sheep Hunting in the Richardson Mountains (GMS 1–25 & 1–28)

Two sheep permits are available for GMS 1–25 and 1–28. Mount Dennis is excluded from the permit hunt area.

! Season Dates and Bag Limits

The bag limits listed under each zone (**page 61-74**) are territory-wide bag limits. For example, you can shoot only one moose each year in Yukon, NOT one moose in each zone.

Exceptions: Inuvialuit hunters can obtain a special permit to hunt grizzly bears annually. Caribou hunters have area limits and territory-wide limits. See **page 60**.

ZONE 1

Species	Season Dates	Bag Limit
Male Moose 1–01	CLOSED	CLOSED
1–04, 1–05, 1–12 to 1–15, 1–17 to 1–19, 1–21 to 1–72	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Male Caribou 1–01	CLOSED	CLOSED
1–04, 1–05, 1–12 to 1–15, 1–17 to 1–19, 1–21 to 1–72	Aug 1 to Jan 31	Two See explanatory map on **page 60**.
Male Sheep 1–25, 1–28 *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	Aug 1 to Sept 15	One
1–01, 1–04, 1–05, 1–12 to 1–15, 1–17 to 1–19, 1–21 to 1–24, 1–26, 1–27, 1–29 to 1–72	CLOSED	CLOSED
Male Deer 1–01 to 1–14	CLOSED	CLOSED
1–15, 1–17 to 1–19, 1–21 to 1–72 *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	Aug 1 to Nov 30	One
Elk All subzones except 1–01 *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	April 1 to Mar 31	One
Spring Black Bear 1–01	CLOSED	CLOSED
1–04, 1–05, 1–12 to 1–15, 1–17 to 1–19, 1–21 to 1–72	Apr 15 to June 21	Two (total) each licence year
Fall Black Bear 1–04, 1–05, 1–12 to 1–15, 1–17 to 1–19, 1–21 to 1–72	Aug 1 to Nov 15	
1–01	CLOSED	CLOSED
Spring Grizzly Bear 1–39, 1–53, 1–54	CLOSED	CLOSED
1–15, 1–17 to 1–19, 1–21 to 1–38, 1–40 to 1–52, 1–55 to 1–72	Apr 15 to June 21	One (total) every three licence years
1–01, 1–04, 1–05, 1–12 to 1–14 *Special permit required (see page 6-9)*	Apr 15 to June 21	One each year
Fall Grizzly Bear 1–01, 1–04, 1–05, 1–12 to 1–14 *Special permit required (see page 6-9)*	Aug 1 to Nov 15	
1–15, 1–17 to 1–19, 1–21 to 1–38, 1–40 to 1–52, 1–55 to 1–72	Aug 1 to Nov 15	One (total) every three licence years
1–39, 1–53, 1–54	CLOSED	CLOSED
Wolverine 1–01, 1–04, 1–05, 1–12 to 1–14	CLOSED	CLOSED
1–15, 1–17 to 1–19, 1–21 to 1–72	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Wolf 1–01, 1–04, 1–05, 1–12 to 1–14	CLOSED	CLOSED
1–15, 1–17 to 1–19, 1–21 to 1–72	Aug 1 to Mar 31	Seven (residents) Two (non-residents)
Coyote 1–01, 1–04, 1–05, 1–12 to 1–14	CLOSED	CLOSED
1–15, 1–17 to 1–19, 1–21 to 1–72	Aug 1 to Mar 31	No limit
Muskox All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED

Special Area Restrictions

Dempster Highway Development Corridor

The Dempster Highway development corridor extends to 8 km on either side of the centre line of the Dempster Highway from kilometre 68 to the Northwest Territories border.

- **Off-road vehicles:** Off-road use of vehicles including all terrain vehicles and motorized trail bikes is prohibited within the Dempster Highway development corridor.
- **Snowmobiles:** The use of snowmobiles is prohibited within the Dempster Highway development corridor until the ground is covered with snow. Restrictions on snowmobile use will be lifted each fall when conditions are right, and will be advertised in local media and on the Environment Yukon website.

Hunting in Tombstone Territorial Park

While hunting is allowed in Tombstone Territorial Park, hunters are asked to use caution and consideration when hunting. Be aware of the proximity of others who may also be using the area. Please do not leave gut piles on or near trails.

Managing Harvest of the Hart River Caribou Herd

To help conserve the harvest of the Hart River caribou herd, GMS 2–16, 2–23, 2–27, 2–28 and 2–39 will be closed to caribou hunting after October 31. If Porcupine caribou are in the area in sufficient numbers, these subzones will be opened to caribou hunting. Check with Environment Yukon before you head out to hunt to see if hunting is permitted in these subzones (south Dempster Highway) after October 31.

? *Support the Hides for Habitat Project*

If you get a moose, caribou or bison this season, you'll have an opportunity to contribute to wildlife conservation while making full use of the animal. Donate the hide to the Hides for Habitat project and the revenue from its sale will be used to fund habitat conservation and anti-poaching efforts.

Each hide has a value of $25 to $50 depending on its condition. The hides will be tanned and then sold for use in making clothing and crafts. The Yukon Fish and Game Association, in cooperation with Environment Yukon, will use 100 per cent of the revenue for conservation efforts, not office expenses.

Well-fleshed hides with few holes have the highest value. Dried hides have the lowest value. So please bring in your hides fresh, frozen or salted. (Salted hides should be well fleshed out to make sure the salt can penetrate.) Half hides are also accepted.

If you live in Whitehorse, bring your moose, caribou and bison hides to Tutshi Tanning Limited at 48 MacDonald Road in Porter Creek (867-633-4293). If you live outside of Whitehorse, please contact your local Conservation Officer.

ZONE 2

Species	Season Dates	Bag Limit
Male Moose All subzones	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Male Caribou		
Woodland Caribou 2–25, 2–29, 2–40, 2–41, 2–45 to 2–65, 2–70 to 2–93	Aug 1 to Oct 31	Area limit is One. See explanatory map on **page 60**.
Woodland Caribou 2–16, 2–23, 2–27, 2–28, 2–39	Aug 1 to Oct 31	
Porcupine Caribou 2–16, 2–23, 2–27, 2–28, 2–39	Nov 1 to Jan 31 only if Porcupine herd is in the area	Area limit is Two. See explanatory map on **page 60**.
Porcupine Caribou 2–01 to 2–15, 2–17, 2–18, 2–22, 2–26, 2–30 to 2–38, 2–42 to 2–44, 2–66 to 2–69	Aug 1 to Jan 31	
Fortymile Caribou 2–19, 2–20, 2–21, 2–24	CLOSED	CLOSED
Male Sheep All subzones	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Male Deer All subzones *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	Aug 1 to Nov 30	One
Elk All subzones *Permit required (see page 6-9)*	April 1 to Mar 31	One
Spring Black Bear All subzones	Apr 15 to June 21	Two (total) each licence year
Fall Black Bear All subzones	Aug 1 to Nov 15	
Spring Grizzly Bear 2–26 to 2–28	CLOSED	CLOSED
2–01 to 2–25, 2–29 to 2–93	Apr 15 to June 21	One (total) every three licence years
Fall Grizzly Bear 2–01 to 2–25, 2–29 to 2–93	Aug 1 to Nov 15	
2–26 to 2–28	CLOSED	CLOSED
Wolverine All subzones	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Wolf All subzones	Aug 1 to Mar 31	Seven (residents) Two (non-residents)
Coyote All subzones	Aug 1 to Mar 31	No limit

ZONE 3

Special Area Restrictions

There are no special area restrictions in Zone 3.

Species	Season Dates	Bag Limit
Male Moose All subzones	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Male Caribou All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Bison All subzones *Permit required (see page 8)*	Sept 1 to Mar 31	One
Male Sheep All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Male Deer All subzones *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	Aug 1 to Nov 30	One
Elk All subzones *Permit required (see page 6-9)*	April 1 to Mar 31	One
Spring Black Bear All subzones	Apr 15 to June 21	Two (total) each licence year
Fall Black Bear All subzones	Aug 1 to Nov 15	
Spring Grizzly Bear All subzones	Apr 15 to June 21	One (total) every three licence years
Fall Grizzly Bear All subzones	Aug 1 to Nov 15	
Wolverine All subzones	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Wolf All subzones	Aug 1 to Mar 31	Seven (residents) Two (non-residents)
Coyote All subzones	Aug 1 to Mar 31	No limit

ZONE 4

Special Area Restrictions

Ddhaw Ghro (Subzone 4–03), Formerly McArthur Wildlife Sanctuary

Ddhaw Ghro is closed to all hunting.

Faro Area (Subzones 4–44 to 4–46)

Subzones 4–44 to 4–46 are subject to a threshold hunt for moose to a harvest limit of 15 (see **page 37**).

Subzone 4-51

Subzone 4-51 is closed to all big game hunting.

ZONE 4

Species	Season Dates	Bag Limit
Male Moose 4–03, 4–51	CLOSED	CLOSED
4–44 to 4–46	Aug 1 to Oct 31, or until the number of moose harvested reaches the threshold.	One
4–01, 4–02, 4–04 to 4–43, 4–47 to 4–50 , 4–52	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Male Caribou 4–03, 4–51	CLOSED	CLOSED
4–01, 4–02, 4–04 to 4–50, 4–52	Aug 1 to Oct 31	Area limit is One. See explanatory map on **page 60**.
Bison 4–03, 4–51	CLOSED	CLOSED
4–01, 4–02, 4–04 to 4–50, 4–52 *Permit required (see page 8)*	Sept 1 to Mar 31	One
Male Sheep 4–03, 4–46, 4–47, 4–51, 4–52	CLOSED	CLOSED
4–01, 4–02, 4–04 to 4–45, 4–48 to 4–50	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Goat All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Male Deer 4–03, 4–51	CLOSED	CLOSED
4–01, 4–02, 4–04 to 4–50, 4–52 *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	Aug 1 to Nov 30	One
Elk 4–03, 4–51	CLOSED	CLOSED
4–01, 4–02, 4–04 to 4–50, 4–52 *Permit required (see page 6-9)*	April 1 to Mar 31	One
Spring Black Bear 4–03, 4–51	CLOSED	CLOSED
4–01, 4–02, 4–04 to 4–50, 4–52	Apr 15 to June 21	Two (total) each licence year
Fall Black Bear 4–01, 4–02, 4–04 to 4–50, 4–52	Aug 1 to Nov 15	
4–03, 4–51	CLOSED	CLOSED
Spring Grizzly Bear 4–03, 4–51	CLOSED	CLOSED
4–01, 4–02, 4–04 to 4–50, 4–52	Apr 15 to June 21	One (total) every three licence years
Fall Grizzly Bear 4–01, 4–02, 4–04 to 4–50, 4–52	Aug 1 to Nov 15	
4–03, 4–51	CLOSED	CLOSED
Wolverine 4–03, 4–51	CLOSED	CLOSED
4–01, 4–02, 4–04 to 4–50, 4–52	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Wolf 4–03, 4–51	CLOSED	CLOSED
4–01, 4–02, 4–04 to 4–50, 4–52	Aug 1 to Mar 31	Seven (residents) Two (non–residents)
Coyote 4–03, 4–51	CLOSED	CLOSED
4–01, 4–02, 4–04 to 4–50, 4–52	Aug 1 to Mar 31	No limit

Special Area Restrictions

Takhini Hotsprings Road

All hunting is prohibited within 800 metres on either side of the Takhini Hotsprings Road from the Klondike Highway to 800 metres beyond the Takhini Hot Springs. Hunters are reminded that it is unlawful to hunt within one kilometre of a residence, whether the occupants are present or not, without the occupants' permission.

Vehicles Must Use Designated Routes in the East Kluane Area

The use of vehicles for the purpose of hunting, including transporting wildlife or transporting hunters, is allowed only on designated routes in subzones 5–34, and 5–36 to 5–39. Designated routes are as follows:

- Silver City to Cultus Bay
- Cultus Bay to Fourth of July Creek
- Fourth of July Creek road
- Cultus Bay to Gladstone Creek
- Gladstone Creek to Printers Creek
- Kloo Lake roads
- McKinley Creek trail
- Christmas Bay access road
- Jarvis River trail
- Ruby Creek trail
- the Old Alaska Highway between the Alaska Highway and Silver City
- the Alaska Highway between Jarvis River and Slims River Bridge

Aircraft, excluding helicopters, used to transport hunters for the purposes of hunting are allowed. The use of a snowmobile is permitted only for the purpose of hunting or transporting bison during the bison season. No other species may be hunted or transported by snowmobile at any time on the designated routes.

A detailed map of designated routes is available to view or purchase at Environment Yukon offices, and to view online or download from www.environmentyukon.ca/maps/view/nav/3/17/.

Fall Bison Season Corridors

North Klondike Highway: a one-kilometre wide corridor along the west side of the North Klondike Highway between Whitehorse and Braeburn.

Alaska Highway: a three-kilometre wide corridor along the north side of the Alaska Highway between Whitehorse and the Slims River Bridge.

New in 2016, the use of motorized vehicles is now permitted for retrieval and transport of **harvested bison** within the three kilometre zone adjacent to the Alaska Highway in **subzone 5-38 only** (between the Jarvis River and Silver City).

See the Environment Yukon bison hunting page at www.env.gov.yk.ca/bison for the most current descriptions of the fall and winter bison hunting seasons.

Detailed maps of the bison core range and hunt areas are available to view or purchase at Environment Yukon offices and to view online or download from www.environmentyukon.ca/maps/view/nav/3/17/.

ZONE 5

Species	Season Dates	Bag Limit
Male Moose 5–22 to 5–24, 5–26	CLOSED	CLOSED
5–28, 5–30 to 5–42, 5–45 to 5–47 *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
5–01 to 5–21, 5–25, 5–27, 5–29, 5–43, 5–44, 5–48 to 5–51	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Male Caribou 5–01 to 5–10, 5–12, 5–14 to 5–21, 5–28, 5–49 to 5–51	CLOSED	CLOSED
5–11, 5–13, 5–22 to 5–27, 5–29 to 5–48 *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	Aug 1 to Oct 31	Area limit is One. See explanatory map on **page 60**.
Bison 5–01, 5–04 to 5–07 *Permit required (see page 8)*	Sept 1 to Mar 31	One
Fall Bison Season Corridors as described *Permit required (see page 8)*	Sept 1 to Oct 31	One
5–02, 5–03, 5–08 to 5–51 *Permit required (see page 8)*	Nov 1 to Mar 31	One
Male Sheep 5–01 to 5–49, 5–51	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
5–50 *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Goat All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Male Deer All subzones *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	Aug 1 to Nov 30	One
Elk Portions of 5–44 and 5–45, 5–47 to 5–50 *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	See permit	One
5–01 to 5–43, portions of 5–44 and 5–45, 5–46, 5–51 *Permit required (see page 6-9)*	April 1 to Mar 31	One
Spring Black Bear All subzones	Apr 15 to June 21	Two (total) each licence year
Fall Black Bear All subzones	Aug 1 to Nov 15	
Spring Grizzly Bear All subzones	Apr 15 to June 21	One (total) every three licence years
Fall Grizzly Bear All subzones	Aug 1 to Nov 15	
Wolverine All subzones	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Wolf All subzones	Aug 1 to Mar 31	Seven (residents) Two (non-residents)
Coyote All subzones	Aug 1 to Mar 31	No limit

Special Area Restrictions

Kluane Wildlife Sanctuary

Zone 6 is closed to all hunting in 2016-17 except the Kluane sheep permit hunt.

Species	Season Dates	Bag Limit
Male Moose All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Male Caribou All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Bison All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Male Sheep 6–01 to 6–03, 6–05, 6–09 to 6–13	CLOSED	CLOSED
Portions of 6–04, 6–06, 6–07, 6–08 *Yukon resident permit hunt only **(see pages 7 and 47)***	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Portions of 6–04, 6–06, 6–07, 6–08 *Non-resident permit hunt only **(see page 47)***	July 21 to Oct 31	One
Goat All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Male Deer All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Elk All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Spring Black Bear All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Fall Black Bear All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Spring Grizzly Bear All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Fall Grizzly Bear All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Wolverine All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Wolf All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Coyote All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED

ZONE 7

Special Area Restrictions

Annie Lake Road

All hunting is prohibited within 800 metres on either side of the Annie Lake Road from the Carcross Road to kilometre 20.5. Hunters are reminded that it is unlawful to hunt within one kilometre of a residence, whether the occupants are present or not, without the occupants' permission.

Species	Season Dates	Bag Limit
Male Moose All subzones *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
7–01 to 7–12 *Extended-season permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	Nov 1 to Mar 31	One
Male Caribou All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Bison All subzones *Permit required (see page 8)*	Sept 1 to Mar 31	One
Male Sheep 7–15, 7–18, 7–19, 7–34 to 7–36	CLOSED	CLOSED
7–01 to 7–13, 7–17, 7–20, 7–24, 7–26, 7–28, 7–29, 7–33	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
7–14, 7–16, 7–21 to 7–23, 7–25, 7–27, 7–30 to 7–32 *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Goat 7–01 to 7–33, 7–36	CLOSED	CLOSED
7–34, 7–35 *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Male Deer All subzones *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	Aug 1 to Nov 30	One
Elk Portions of 7-02 and 7–04, 7–05, 7–13 to 7–15, 7–18 *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	See permit	One
7–01, portions of 7–02, 7–03, portions of 7–04, 7–06 to 7–12, 7–16, 7–17, 7–17, 7–19 to 7–36 *Permit required (see page 6-9)*	April 1 to Mar 31	One
Spring Black Bear All subzones	Apr 15 to June 21	Two (total) each licence year
Fall Black Bear All subzones	Aug 1 to Nov 15	
Spring Grizzly Bear All subzones	Apr 15 to June 21	One (total) every three licence years
Fall Grizzly Bear All subzones	Aug 1 to Nov 15	
Wolverine All subzones	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Wolf All subzones	Aug 1 to Mar 31	Seven (residents) Two (non-residents)
Coyote All subzones	Aug 1 to Mar 31	No limit

Special Area Restrictions

There are no special area restrictions in Zone 8.

Moose Harvest Reporting in GMS 8–24 to 8–27

Hunters harvesting moose in GMS 8–24, 8–25, 8–26 and 8–27 in the Big Salmon Range, west of the South Canol Highway and north of the Teslin River from Johnsons Crossing, are required to report their harvest on a sub-area basis in the kill report. Maps defining these areas can be viewed at Environment Yukon district offices.

Species	Season Dates	Bag Limit
Male Moose All subzones	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Male Caribou 8–01 to 8–11, 8–18 to 8–25	Aug 1 to Oct 31	Area limit is One. See explanatory map on **page 60**.
8–12 to 8–17, 8–26, 8–27	CLOSED	CLOSED
Bison All subzones *Permit required (see page 8)*	Sept 1 to Mar 31	One
Male Sheep All subzones	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Goat All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Male Deer All subzones *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	Aug 1 to Nov 30	One
Elk Portions of 8–01, portions of 8–04 *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	See permit	One
Portions of 8–01, 8–02, 8–03, portions of 8–04, 8–05 to 8–27 *Permit required (see page 6-9)*	April 1 to Mar 31	One
Spring Black Bear All subzones	Apr 15 to June 21	Two (total) each licence year
Fall Black Bear All subzones	Aug 1 to Nov 15	
Spring Grizzly Bear All subzones	Apr 15 to June 21	One (total) every three licence years
Fall Grizzly Bear All subzones	Aug 1 to Nov 15	
Wolverine All subzones	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Wolf All subzones	Aug 1 to Mar 31	Seven (residents) Two (non-residents)
Coyote All subzones	Aug 1 to Mar 31	No limit

ZONE 9

Special Area Restrictions

Annie Lake Road

All hunting is prohibited within 800 metres on either side of the Annie Lake Road from the Carcross Road to kilometre 20.5. Hunters are reminded that it is unlawful to hunt within one kilometre of a residence, whether the occupants are present or not, without the occupants' permission.

Species	Season Dates	Bag Limit
Male Moose		
9–01 to 9–07 *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
9–08 to 9–11	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Male Caribou		
All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Bison		
All subzones *Permit required (see page 8)*	Sept 1 to Mar 31	One
Male Sheep		
9–01, 9–02, 9–04 to 9–11	CLOSED	CLOSED
9–03 *Bowhunting only. Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Goat		
All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Male Deer		
All subzones *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	Aug 1 to Nov 30	One
Elk		
All subzones *Permit required (see page 6-9)*	April 1 to Mar 31	One
Spring Black Bear		
All subzones	Apr 15 to June 21	Two (total) each licence year
Fall Black Bear		
All subzones	Aug 1 to Nov 15	
Spring Grizzly Bear		
All subzones	Apr 15 to June 21	One (total) every three licence years
Fall Grizzly Bear		
All subzones	Aug 1 to Nov 15	
Wolverine		
All subzones	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Wolf		
All subzones	Aug 1 to Mar 31	Seven (residents) Two (non-residents)
Coyote		
All subzones	Aug 1 to Mar 31	No limit

Special Area Restrictions

Nisutlin River Delta National Wildlife Area

Please check the public notice on page 30 regarding regulations and safety in the Nisutlin River Delta National Wildlife Area or visit: www.ec.gc.ca/ap-pa/default.asp?lang=En&n=1521DFCD-1.

Species	Season Dates	Bag Limit
Male Moose All subzones	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Male Caribou 10–01 to 10–04, 10–10 to 10–16, 10–20 to 10–32	Aug 1 to Oct 31	Area limit is One. See explanatory map on **page 60**.
10–05 to 10–09, 10–17 to 10–19 *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	Aug 1 to Sept 24	Area limit is One. See explanatory map on **page 60**.
Bison All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Male Sheep 10–22, 10–28	CLOSED	CLOSED
10–01 to 10–21, 10–23 to 10–27, 10–29 to 10–32	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Goat All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Male Deer All subzones *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	Aug 1 to Nov 30	One
Elk All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Spring Black Bear All subzones	Apr 15 to June 21	Two (total) each licence year
Fall Black Bear All subzones	Aug 1 to Nov 15	
Spring Grizzly Bear All subzones	Apr 15 to June 21	One (total) every three licence years
Fall Grizzly Bear All subzones	Aug 1 to Nov 15	
Wolverine All subzones	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Wolf All subzones	Aug 1 to Mar 31	Seven (residents) Two (non-residents)
Coyote All subzones	Aug 1 to Mar 31	No limit

ZONE 11

Special Area Restrictions

There are no special area restrictions in Zone 11.

Species	Season Dates	Bag Limit
Male Moose All subzones	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Male Caribou 11–01, 11–19, 11–24 to 11–46	Aug 1 to Oct 31	Area limit is One. See explanatory map on **page 60**.
11–02 to 11–18, 11–20 to 11–23 *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	Aug 1 to Sept 24	Area limit is One. See explanatory map on **page 60**.
Bison All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Male Sheep All subzones	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Goat 11–01 to 11–03, 11–25	CLOSED	CLOSED
11–04 to 11–24, 11–26 to 11–46	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Male Deer All subzones *Permit hunt only (see page 6-9)*	Aug 1 to Nov 30	One
Elk All subzones	CLOSED	CLOSED
Spring Black Bear All subzones	Apr 15 to June 21	Two (total) each licence year
Fall Black Bear All subzones	Aug 1 to Nov 15	
Spring Grizzly Bear All subzones	Apr 15 to June 21	One (total) every three licence years
Fall Grizzly Bear All subzones	Aug 1 to Nov 15	
Wolverine All subzones	Aug 1 to Oct 31	One
Wolf All subzones	Aug 1 to Mar 31	Seven (residents) Two (non-residents)
Coyote All subzones	Aug 1 to Mar 31	No limit

2015-2016 Licensed Big Game Harvest Statistics

	Moose	Caribou	Bison	Sheep	Goat	Deer	Elk*	Grizzly Bear	Black Bear	Wolf
Zone	Number of animals taken by resident + non-resident hunters									
1	5+1	158+5	0+0	0+0	0+0	0+0	0+0	1+0	0+0	1+0
2	39+65	69+41	0+0	5+52	0+0	0+0	0+0	2+20	7+4	1+8
3	61+2	0+0	0+0	0+0	0+0	0+0	0+0	3+0	16+0	0+0
4	63+89	8+25	0+0	5+15	0+0	0+0	0+0	8+7	18+1	4+10
5	43+26	14+8	167+5	28+37	0+0	1+0	3+0	10+8	4+0	1+5
6	0+0	0+0	0+0	0+1	0+0	0+0	0+0	0+0	0+0	0+0
7	3+0	0+0	3+0	59+14	2+0	0+0	1+0	6+0	9+0	2+0
8	56+25	10+9	0+0	2+4	0+0	4+0	1+0	5+4	9+2	5+1
9	15+0	0+0	0+0	1+0	0+0	0+0	0+0	2+0	6+0	1+0
10	61+33	19+13	0+0	0+7	0+0	0+0	0+0	3+3	10+0	0+3
11	75+37	18+15	0+0	0+0	4+3	0+0	0+0	4+6	5+0	1+1
Sub-total	421+278	296+116	170+5	100+130	6+3	5+0	5+0	44+48	84+7	16+28
Total	**699**	**412**	**175**	**230**	**9**	**5**	**5**	**92**	**91**	**44**

* An additional 11 elk were harvested through an elk/agriculture conflict hunt. See **page 53** for details.

Field Dressing and Meat Care

There are several ways of processing a big game animal. Regardless of what method you choose, always keep the meat cool, clean and dry. Two or more people will make processing much easier. If you want the animal mounted by a taxidermist, consult the relevant resources on how to skin it for this purpose.

Consider these points when choosing a method:

- Removing the organs as soon as possible is the best way to start the cooling process. If this is not done carefully, you can spill gut contents, feces or urine onto the meat.
- The more cuts you make into the meat, the more you expose it to dirt, egg-laying insects and other sources of contamination. Cutting the animal into the largest manageable pieces possible and leaving meat on the bone is the best way to avoid this.
- If you have a large animal, or if you need to carry the meat a long distance, deboning some or all of the animal may be your best option.

The Conventional Field Dressing Method

Removing the Guts

Step 1: Confirm the Animal is Dead

Approach the animal from the spine side, and confirm there's no movement of the chest or limbs. Use the muzzle of your firearm or a long stick to touch the eyeball. If the animal blinks, it's still alive. Use a single shot to the head at close range to kill it humanely.

Step 2: Attach the Seal

Cancel your big game seal and attach it to the carcass. To find out where to attach the seal, check the part of this booklet that provides information on your species.

Step 3: Initial Cuts

1. Move the animal onto its back if possible, and tie its legs out or have your hunting partner hold them while you work. You can do the following procedure with the animal on its side, but that's more awkward. If using a knife, cut from the underside of the hide as much as possible (blade pointing up). A hooked blade utility knife makes the initial cuts described below easy to do.
2. Starting at the chin of the animal, cut straight down the mid-line of the belly towards the hind end, moving your cut to one side of the genitals before stopping just short of the anus. Be careful to only cut through the hide, and be cautious around the abdomen, as you don't want to puncture the gut cavity.
3. Next, cut through the hide on the back of each leg several inches below the knee joint. Continue these cuts downward to join the main cut you made along the mid-line of the belly. Make a circular cut through the hide around each lower leg below the knee joint.
4. Skin back the hide from either side of your mid-line belly cut to completely expose the brisket plus about 15 cm (6 in) of the abdomen.

! Legal Evidence of Sex and Species

Conservation Officers must be able to determine the species and gender of any harvested wildlife. Legal requirements vary from species to species. Please see the appropriate species sections.

Step 4: Evidence of Sex

On a male, skin out the penis and scrotum and direct them towards the back of the animal in case of urine spillage. You can then leave the skin from the scrotum attached to one of the hind quarters. Antlers or horns attached to the skull are also acceptable for proof of sex (except in the case of caribou).

Step 5: Opening the Body Cavity

To make a cut to open the body cavity, follow your mid-line cut with your blade pointed up or use a special tool designed for this purpose. You can use your other hand and arm to push down on the gut and guide your knife. Be very careful because you don't want to puncture the gut, which will already be starting to bloat. See "A First Nation Perspective on Big Game" on **page 80** for a different way to make this cut. Salvage the flank (belly flap).

Step 6: Opening the Chest Cavity

1. Use a saw to split the brisket, or use a knife or saw to cut through the cartilage joints and remove it whole.
2. Following the mid-line of the throat, cut through the tissue to expose the esophagus and trachea (windpipe). Tie off the esophagus with strong cord or plastic cable ties close to the head in two places about 5 cm (2 in) apart, and cut through both it and the trachea in between your tie off locations.

Step 7: Splitting the Pelvis

1. Spread the hind legs and cut through the muscle on the mid-line of the pelvis. Using a saw, carefully cut through the pelvis bone. Be careful not to puncture the colon or bladder.
2. Using a thin, sharp knife (a fillet knife works well), cut a ring around the anus, again being cautious not to puncture the colon or bladder. You can use a plastic cable tie or strong cord to tie it off when it has been separated from the body to prevent leakage.

Step 8: Removing the Guts

1. The diaphragm separates the chest cavity from the gut cavity and is connected to the entire inner wall of the animal's ribs. Start cutting this away to begin freeing the organs from the body.
2. When you have separated the most easily accessible parts of the diaphragm, get your partner to grab hold of the trachea (a small hole cut into it can make it easier to hang on to) and start pulling it back toward the hind end of the animal. The organs are attached to the spinal column of the animal with thin tissue. You'll need to cut through this as your partner pulls them away.
3. Get your partner to keep pulling as you cut through the connective tissue and roll the paunch and intestines out of the side of the animal.
4. Salvage the heart, liver and kidneys to eat or give away.
5. Remove any blood from inside the body cavity and wipe it clean. Roll the rest of the gut pile out of the way.

Removing the Meat

Depending on the size of the animal, and the distance you need to carry it, you may want to keep the largest pieces intact. For a small animal that you're not carrying very far, you may decide to transport it whole. In other situations, and with the right equipment, you may decide to split your harvest in half, or into "butcher's quarters" (the animal split down the spine, and severed between the second and third ribs). The following will explain how to break the animal down into eight pieces: the neck, two front quarters, the loin, two sides of ribs, and two hind quarters. This allows you to debone the meat at home, or to leave the bones intact to cut bone-in steaks and roasts.

Field Dressing and Meat Care

Step 1: Finish Skinning

With the animal laying on one side, skin out the top side all the way to the spine.

Step 2: Remove the Hind Leg

Raise the top side hind leg and carefully cut along the pelvis toward the ball and socket joint at the hip. Using your knife, sever the joint and continue your cut through to the top of the pelvis (leaving the sirloin portion intact) until the leg is completely severed. Set it aside on a clean surface such as a tarp, game bag or the half-skinned hide.

Step 3: Remove the Front Leg

Trim away any bloodshot meat, as it will spoil quickly. Raise the topside front leg and cut it off by slicing through the meat from the armpit to the shoulder. There is no bone-to-bone connection in the shoulder. Just run your knife between the large flat shoulder blade and the ribs. Once the leg is severed, set it aside on a clean surface such as a tarp, game bag or the half-skinned hide.

Step 4: Remove One Side of Ribs

Using your saw, cut through the ribs to remove them in one large slab. Be careful not to cut into the "backstrap" portions that form a triangle between the ridge of the spine and the top of the ribcage.

Step 5: Do the Other Side

Taking care to protect the exposed meat from the ground by spreading out the hide and/or laying out a tarp, flip the animal over and skin the rest of it out. Remove both legs and the ribs the same way you did on the other side.

Step 6: Remove the Head and Neck

Cut off the head where the spine meets the skull. A knife should be all you need to sever this joint. When you've removed the head, you can then use a saw to cut the neck off where it meets the ribs.

Step 7: The Final Cut

Cut through the spine in between the second and third ribs (counting from the tail forward) to preserve the tenderloins along the underside of the spine.

The "Gutless" Method

As already noted, removing the guts as soon as possible starts the cooling process quickly. Some hunters choose to leave the guts intact until much of the meat has been removed, but this increases the risk of spoilage because of the retained heat inside the animal. You should only use this method if you are confident in your skills and know that you can get to the guts in a short amount of time. It is not recommended in warmer temperatures.

Deboning

Deboning an animal can be extremely useful if you want to reduce the weight of the load you need to carry (e.g., on a backpacking hunt), and are not interested in bone-in steaks and roasts. Keep in mind that deboning an animal can expose much more meat to the air than leaving the bones in, leading to increased risk of contamination.

The Boning Out Method

We'll describe here the deboning of an animal using the "gutless" method, but you can also debone your harvest using the conventional field dressing method described previously.

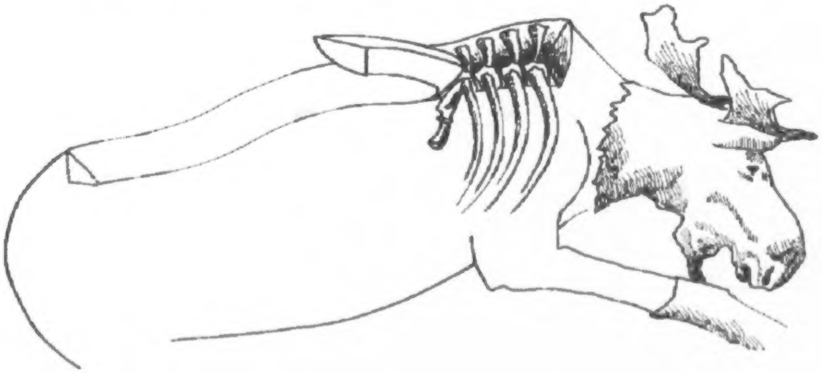
Step 1: Attach the seal

Step 2: With the animal on its side, skin out the top side of the animal

Step 3: Remove the top side legs

Step 4: Remove the top side backstrap and neck slab

Remove the top side backstrap by making two long, deep cuts lengthwise on the back of the carcass. The cuts will join at the backbone to form a "V" shape. Make the first cut down along the mid-line of the back to the point where the spine joins the ribs. This cut should run from the neck to the pelvis. Make the second cut along the side of the ribs and run it upward to join the first cut along the top of the rib cage. This cut should also run from the neck to the pelvis. When it's finished the backstrap should come off in one long strip. Next, fillet the slabs of muscle off the topside of the neck.



Step 5: Repeat steps 2, 3 and 4 on the other side

Step 6: Remove the guts as described in the conventional method on page 76

Step 7: Remove the tenderloins

Fillet off the two strips of meat that run on the underside of the spine from the pelvis to the third rib. You can place these in a game bag with the backstraps.

Step 8: Remove the ribs

To bone out the brisket and ribs in place, fillet the slabs of meat off the outside of the rib cage, then cut out the strips of meat from between the ribs.

Step 9: Remove the remaining meat

Next, check the carcass over carefully and remove any remaining pieces of edible meat.

You can further debone the animal by removing the meat from the legs you set aside earlier. A fillet knife works well for this. After you've removed all the edible meat you should be left with a gut pile, hide and a clean skeleton.

Field Dressing and Meat Care

Taking Care of Your Meat

The meat should be hung in a cool (just above 0°C), dry, well-ventilated place that's protected from flies. Let the meat hang for seven to 10 days to age and tenderize before cutting it up into meal-size portions for the freezer. Meat will spoil if not hung properly, especially if temperatures are not cold enough or if ventilation is poor.

To watch a video on how to field dress big game, visit: www.youtube.com/environmentyukon.

A First Nation Perspective on Big Game

> *"When you kill something, the animal gives its life for you. So you've got to give thanks to the Great Spirit. Something had to die for you to continue with your life. That's the way I look at it."*
>
> – Art Johns, Carcross/Tagish First Nation Elder

The hunting traditions of Yukon First Nation peoples have grown out of their intimate relationship with the natural world. Through wise use of local resources, the first people of the Yukon were able to feed, clothe and shelter themselves while developing rich communities and cultures. Moose and caribou in particular provided a bountiful source of food and raw material such as bone, hide and sinew.

While the equipment used by First Nation hunters has changed over the last 200 years, the way in which moose and caribou are used has remained essentially the same for countless generations. Art Johns of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation knows all about traditional uses of moose and caribou. In his desire to communicate respect for wildlife, and help reduce the waste of wild meat, he has graciously provided the information you will read in the next two pages.

Field Dressing

When Art Johns dresses out a moose or caribou, he does a few things differently from the conventional field dressing method. Before gutting the animal he cuts off the head, skins the carcass, and removes the shoulders and hams. Then he guts the animal in a unique way. Instead of cutting down the centre of the abdomen, he cuts around the edges of the flank or "belly flap". This flap of muscle, about 2 cm (1 in) thick, covers the belly from the ribs to the pelvis and up to the back on each side. Art removes the belly flap in one large piece, emptying the belly cavity as he goes.

Eat Everything — Waste Nothing

First Nation peoples traditionally eat all edible parts of a moose, right down to the hoofs. This practice avoids waste and shows proper respect for the animal that gave up its life. It also provides vitamins and nutrients, which are concentrated in selected body parts.

How Art Johns Makes Use of the Whole Animal

Shoulders, hams, loin and back – Cut these large pieces of meat into roasts or steaks.

Neck and shanks – Cut a slab of meat off each side of the neck and use it in a stew or soup. The shank meat can be used the same way, or it can be left on the bone and roasted.

Brisket, ribs and flank – Ribs can be roasted in racks or cut up in smaller pieces and boiled. The brisket can be cooked the same way. The flank can be cut into small pieces and boiled or rolled into roasts if it has enough fat on it.

Head – Cut off the antlers, skin out the head and roast it over an open fire. Pick off the tender meat. The eyeballs are especially nutritious.

Moose nose – Singe the hair off the moose nose over an open fire, Cut the nose off the head just in front of the bone, then cut it in strips about 5 cm (2 in) wide and boil them.

Bones – Leave some meat on the bones. Cut them in pieces about 10 cm (4 in) long. Boil the bones, eat the meat off them and suck the rich marrow out of the centre.

Bone joints – The bone sections at the joints can be cut into smaller pieces and boiled in water. A fine "bone grease" will rise to the top of the pot. Let it cool until it gels and then skim it off. It makes excellent "butter" for eating with dry meat or other snacks.

Hoofs – Leave the hoofs attached to the lower legs. Burn the hair off and then boil the hoof and bone. Eat the meat off the bone right down to the hoofs.

Organs – The tongue can be boiled or roasted. The heart, kidneys and liver are usually fried. If the animal was rutting its liver may be swollen and inedible. If that's the case, leave it in the bush for the whisky jacks and ravens that keep you company.

Diaphragm – The diaphragm can be cut in strips and fried right at the kill site.

Guts – Only certain parts of the stomach and intestines should be eaten. It's best to learn directly from someone who knows the right parts. The large intestines are split lengthwise, washed out and boiled.

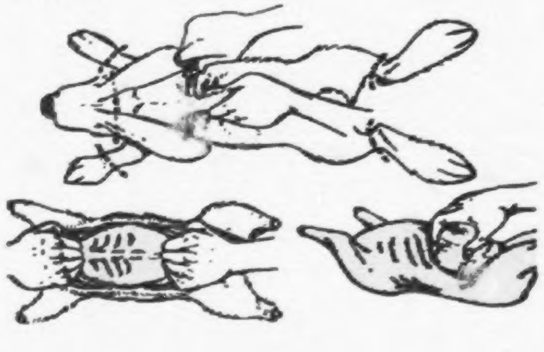
You can eat the organs, diaphragm, guts and flank right away. The remaining meat should be hung in a cool (just above 0°C), dry, well-ventilated place that is protected from flies. Let the meat hang for seven to 10 days to age and tenderize before cutting it up in meal-size portions for the freezer. **Meat will spoil if not hung properly, especially if temperatures are not cold enough or if ventilation is poor.**

> *"If you show respect for the animal and treat it right, it will come back to you the next time you are hungry. If you don't show respect, it will not return. That's what we tell the children so they will learn how important it is to respect the animal."*
>
> — Art Johns, Carcross/Tagish First Nation Elder

How to Clean Small Game

Here's one way to dress out snowshoe hares and arctic ground squirrels:

1. Remove the head and cut off the feet at the joints.
2. Pinch the loose skin on the back and cut through it with your knife.
3. Grasp the hide on both sides of the cut and pull apart.
4. Strip the hide completely off both ends.
5. Cut off the tail.
6. Open the body cavity at the mid-line on the belly.
7. Clean out the entrails.
8. Trim away any shot-up meat and tissue.
9. Wipe the carcass clean with dry grass or cloths.

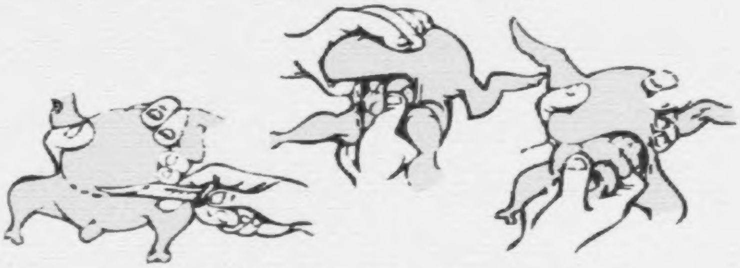


How to Clean Game Birds

If you decide to pluck the bird's feathers rather than skin it, you should clean the bird immediately since feathers begin to set more firmly in the skin as soon as the bird dies. If you're going to skin the bird, you can do it in the field or you can leave the skin on to protect the meat until you get it home.

The skinning can wait but the gutting can't. If you don't gut the bird soon after you kill it, the meat will begin to spoil. Here's one way to clean it:

1. Hold the bird with the breast facing upward.
2. Cut into the body cavity at the base of the breast, following the breast's lower margin.
3. Bend the two sections back and away from each other.
4. Remove the entrails.
5. Wipe the body cavity with dry grass or cloths.
6. Let the carcass cool.



A First Nation Perspective on Small Game

Hazel Bunbury of the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council was raised on traditional foods on the shores of Lake Laberge and Fox Lake. "During the depression years," her mother told her, "the people at Lake Laberge lived like kings." They harvested ducks and geese, lake trout and whitefish, moose and gophers. The land was generous.

For years Hazel taught native languages at Whitehorse Elementary School. She still practices her hunting and fishing traditions at Lake Laberge, with her children or grandchildren at her side. She has provided this information so others can learn about the value of small animals in First Nation culture, and the proper ways to show respect.

Gopher or Ground Squirrel (Tsäl/Säl)

Gophers, or ground squirrels, have always been an important food source for Southern Tutchone people. They are tasty and fairly easy to catch. In old times, gophers sometimes saved people from starvation.

Gophers were once caught in snares made from eagle feathers. Today, traps and .22 calibre rifles are used. Gophers are eaten for a short period when they first emerge from their burrows in the spring. Then they are left alone to raise their young through the summer. In the fall, gophers are harvested once again when they are fat and healthy. Gopher skins are used to make vests, jackets, blankets and robes.

Gophers can be cleaned and cooked a few different ways. Hazel's method is simple and elegant:

1. Skin it.
2. Gut it.
3. Cut off the feet and head.
4. Roast it over a fire or boil it.

To Hazel, gophers do not have a wild taste. They taste like chicken or pork. She doesn't use too much salt because that would ruin the natural flavour.

Porcupine (Dëch'äw)

Porcupine are not as plentiful as gophers and are usually harvested when seen along a trail or roadway. There are many legends about the porcupine and this animal is always treated with respect by First Nation people. It has a rich, dark meat that Hazel compares to a cross between pork and beef. When moose are in the rut, says Hazel, porcupine meat has a strong flavour and should not be eaten. Porcupine should not be taken in the spring either.

Porcupine can be cleaned and roasted over a fire or boiled, in the same way that gophers are eaten. The quills are used to make quillwork, jewelry and other ornaments. In old times, drinking cups made from porcupine feet were used for ritual purposes.

> *"Treat the animal with respect and it will treat you the same way. That's what my mom taught me. That's what I teach my children and grandchildren."*
>
> — Hazel Bunbury, Ta'an Kwäch'än Council

In Hazel's tradition, showing respect means you don't harass small animals, and you don't kill something unless you're going to eat it. It also means that when you talk about animals, you don't make fun of them or talk about them in any way that might be disrespectful.

Keep It Cool, Keep It Clean, Keep It Dry and Keep Scavengers Away

Keep it cool: *The faster the meat cools, the better it will be. Start dressing out the animal shortly after it's killed.*

Keep it clean: *Spilled urine, feces or stomach contents can taint the meat. So can blood clots or shot-up meat. Be careful not to puncture the bladder, intestines or stomach, and trim away any shot-up meat.*

Keep it dry: *A dry protective crust will protect the meat from egg-laying insects and prevent spoiling. This crust will form only if the meat is wiped dry and exposed to the air.*

The field-butchered pieces of meat should be wrapped in game bags or cheese cloth. This will protect the meat while allowing air to circulate around it. Do not wrap the meat in plastic garbage bags or it will spoil quickly.

Keep scavengers away: *If you must leave your meat pile for short periods as you make a series of packing trips, urinate around the pile or leave a jacket or other piece of clothing on the pile. Although they aren't foolproof, these techniques will often keep scavengers away from the meat.*

Bear Safety for Hunters

Hunters need to be aware that the presence of meat and carcasses can increase the risk of bear encounters. This section includes general bear safety tips as well as special advice applying to kill sites.

Don't Surprise a Bear

- Choose travel routes with good visibility where possible.
- Stay alert and look ahead for bears.
- Approach thickets from upwind if you can.
- Make noise to let bears know you're coming.
- Travel in groups.
- Avoid traveling at night.
- Choose a campsite well away from wildlife and human trails.

Don't Attract a Bear

- Never feed a bear.
- Don't bring greasy, smelly foods such as bacon or canned fish.
- Pack your food in airtight containers such as zip-lock bags or hard plastic boxes.
- Thoroughly burn your garbage or pack it out in airtight containers.
- At night, store food, garbage and meat away from your tent, preferably 75 metres downwind.
- Use portable electric fencing around your camp.

At the Kill Site

- Stay alert while field dressing your animal. Look around and listen.
- Keep your firearm within easy reach, as well as bear spray or bear bangers.
- Take all the meat out in one trip if possible. If not, return to the site as quickly as possible.
- Separate the meat pile from the gut pile if you have to leave the site.
- Leave your odour on or near the meat pile. Urinate around it or leave your shirt or jacket.
- Use portable electric fencing around your harvest while you field dress or if you have to leave the animal unattended.
- Mark the kill site with lots of surveyor's tape tied so it flaps in the breeze.
- Remove the tape when you leave the site.

Returning to the Kill Site

- Carry at least one rifle in your group when returning to the site.
- Approach the site from higher ground, if possible, to give yourself a long-distance view.
- Make noise as you approach the site.
- Approach from upwind if possible.

If a bear is present, noise, gunshots or bear bangers may scare it away. Remember, you cannot shoot a bear to protect your meat. See "Non Hunting Kills" on **page 23**.

Bear Safety for Hunters

If You Encounter a Bear

- Group together if there are other people present.
- Speak calmly but firmly to the bear.
- If the bear is stationary, back away slowly, but **don't run**. Leave the area.
- If the bear stays focused on you and keeps coming as you back away, try standing your ground, raising your arms and calling out in a calm voice.
- Shoot the bear only as a last resort and report it to a Conservation Officer as soon as possible.

More Information

Pick up a copy of ***How you can stay safe in bear country*** from an Environment Yukon office or Visitor Information Centre or download it from: www.env.gov.yk.ca/bears.

You can also purchase the video ***Staying Safe in Bear Country*** from Mac's Fireweed Books in Whitehorse, Maximillian's in Dawson City, or online at: www.distributionaccess.com.

Stop Aquatic Invasive Species

When hunting by boat, help protect our waters. Aquatic invaders can harm native species by bringing disease and altering ecosystems. This impacts fisheries, tourism, health and recreation in Yukon. Keep aquatic invaders out by taking these simple steps when moving between bodies of water:

CHECK and remove mud, weeds and aquatic life from motors, boats, trailers and gear before leaving the area.

DRAIN water from bilges, pumps, coolers and buckets before leaving the area.

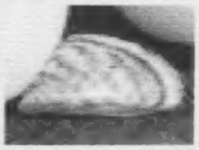
CLEAN your boat, trailer and gear by freezing solid overnight, fully drying in the sun, or power washing.

Pay special attention when you are moving between lakes and rivers. **Report all sightings of possible aquatic invaders to Environment Yukon at 867-667-5721 or toll free 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5721.**

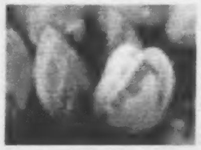
To learn more, visit www.env.gov.yk.ca/ais or www.yukoninvasives.com.

Report Zebra and Quagga Mussels

Zebra and quagga mussels attach to boat hulls and underwater infrastructure, and can cause millions of dollars in damage. Adult mussels can live several weeks out of water and are easily transferred from one body of water to another. They are usually fingernail-sized (less than 5 cm) and look like D-shaped clams with yellow or brownish shells and light-coloured stripes. They are the only freshwater mussels that attach themselves firmly to solid objects.



Zebra Mussel
Amy Benson
bugwood.org



Quagga Mussel
David Britton

How You Can Help Wildlife Studies

Environment Yukon encourages hunters to help monitor wildlife health.

The Northern Contaminants Program monitors Yukon's wildlife for pollutants. Further information can be found below.

The Animal Health Unit monitors a broad range of wildlife health. For information on any animal health program please call 867-667-5600 or email animalhealth@gov.yk.ca.

Northern Contaminants Program: Testing Yukon Wildlife

The Northern Contaminants Program currently monitors contaminant levels in the Porcupine caribou herd. It monitored Yukon moose and caribou from the early 1990s up until a few years ago. The major conclusions to date are:

- Mammals, birds and plants in Yukon are largely free from contamination.
- Some animals have elevated levels of cadmium in their organs.
- Cadmium levels in Yukon moose and caribou appear to be stable over time.
- Mercury fluctuates over time in caribou organs, but over the long term is remaining stable in the Porcupine caribou herd.
- Fallout from the nuclear accident in Fukushima, Japan, in 2012 did not affect the safety of meat harvested from Porcupine caribou.

Recommendations for Meat Consumption

These recommendations are based on eating these referenced amounts every year. If you do not eat any this year, you can eat twice as much next year and remain within the recommended limits.

- **Meat:** Caribou and moose meat is very nutritious, with no limit on the amount of meat (muscle) recommended for consumption.
- **Organs:** Health Canada has issued recommendations for consumption of organ meats based on concentrations of metals found in some Yukon wildlife. The recommendations vary with the type of animal and the herd. For caribou, the recommendation ranges from a maximum of 7-32 kidneys/person/year and 4-16 livers/person/year. The recommended limit for moose liver or kidney is one/person/year.
- Tobacco contains much higher levels of cadmium than animal sources. Reducing or eliminating smoking is the most effective way of limiting cadmium intake.

For more information about contaminants in wildlife, contact the Yukon Contaminants Committee at 867-667-3283.

Animal Health Unit: Monitoring Wildlife Health

The Animal Health Unit encourages hunters to submit any tissues that appear abnormal and any parasites found on or in the carcass. As well, hunters are invited to provide the unit with samples from healthy deer, moose, caribou, birds and bears they have harvested in order to contribute to its health monitoring programs. The following is a list of some of these programs and the type of samples requested.

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Monitoring

Road-killed, found dead, and harvested deer, elk, moose and caribou are being tested for CWD to ensure that it will be detected early, should it eventually occur in Yukon.

To date, CWD has not been found in Yukon animals. A portion of the brain and various glands from the head are collected for testing. The head will not be damaged and can be returned to the hunter.

- Compulsory submission: whole elk heads.
- Requested samples: whole heads of deer, moose and caribou.

Hunting Cervids (Deer, Elk, Moose and Caribou) Outside Yukon

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a growing threat to wild cervid populations outside of Yukon, particularly for deer and elk. Moose and caribou are also susceptible to this disease. Animal carcasses and offal transported by hunters can carry disease and disease-causing agents between regions. Yukon has joined B.C. and Alaska in passing regulations governing the import and/or transport of species susceptible to CWD.

- The import of a whole cervid carcass or most portions of a carcass into Yukon is banned. The exceptions are a cleaned skull cap with antlers, cleaned teeth removed from the head, edible meat completely detached from the head and backbone, finished taxidermy mounts, and tanned hides.
- The ban does not apply to cervids harvested outside Yukon that are in transit through the territory provided they are in a labelled (hunter name, address, species, harvest location) container (box, tarp or other container that ensures no fluids or tissue can leak).
- Good harvest practice is to dispose of all butchering scraps and bones in a landfill so they are not scattered by animals. This reduces the risk that anything will be spread to other animals in the wild.

Cervids harvested either in the Northwest Territories or in the two northern hunting zones in B.C. that border Yukon are exempt from this ban as they are considered to be adjacent populations, with a CWD risk equivalent to that in Yukon.

The sale and/or possession of scent lures used for the hunting of cervids that contain animal urine or glands is prohibited. These could spread disease agents (particularly CWD prions) to new locations. See "Baiting and Poisoning" and the definition of bait on **page 20**.

Winter Tick Monitoring

Winter ticks *(Dermacentor albipictus)* are present in Yukon. Inspections of hides have found that ticks are present on about half of all elk and deer, and on very few moose. While winter ticks have not caused serious health problems for Yukon wildlife, monitoring will continue in order to detect any future changes in the presence and distribution of this parasite.

Examination of a hide does not damage it and the hide will be returned to the hunter promptly.

- Compulsory submission: whole elk hides.
- Requested samples: whole hides or capes of deer, moose, and caribou.

How You Can Help Wildlife Studies

Removing Ticks from Humans or Pets

People or pets may come into contact with other tick species when travelling outside Yukon, inadvertently bringing ticks back to Yukon. Ticks are most safely removed using a slow and gentle pull with fingers or tweezers. Do not twist as this may leave the head still attached to the skin. The Animal Health Unit is interested in what species of ticks are present in, or are transported to, Yukon. You can submit ticks to the Animal Health Unit by dropping them off at any Environment Yukon office (place in a sealed bag, frozen or fresh).

General Bird Health Monitoring

Environment Yukon is monitoring lead levels in certain Yukon bird species and conducting general health monitoring. Animal Health Unit veterinarians examine dead birds to learn about why they died, and collect samples to monitor bird health.

- Requested samples: any dead bird. In most cases, territorial birds can be returned to the submitter if requested.

For more information, please see *Diseases You Can Get From Wildlife,* available online at: www.env.gov.yk.ca/animals-habitat/wildlifediseases.

Yukon Bear Research: Kill Location and Hide Samples

Since bear research is extremely expensive and information on bear populations in Yukon is sparse, Environment Yukon is asking hunters for their assistance in gathering information on grizzly and black bears.

Please record and bring in the kill site location for any bear that you harvest along with your compulsory submission. In the Whitehorse office, a wildlife technician will map the location of your kill and ask to take a small (one square inch with hair) sample of the hide. This information will help Environment Yukon monitor and manage bears.

- Requested samples: specific kill location information and small hide sample.

Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board

The Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board considers territory-wide fish and wildlife issues, consults with the public and advises the Minister of Environment, First Nations and Renewable Resources Councils on how those issues should be addressed. Contact the Board about your fish and wildlife questions and concerns.

Office address: 2nd Floor, 409 Black Street, Whitehorse
Mailing address: Box 31104, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 5P7
Phone: 867-667-3754, Fax: 867-393-6947
Email: officemanager@yfwmb.ca
Website: www.yfwmb.ca

Renewable Resources Councils

Renewable Resources Councils (RRCs) have been established in 10 of the 11 Traditional Territories of First Nations with completed Final Agreements. RRCs consider local fish and wildlife issues, consult with community residents and make recommendations to the Minister of Environment, First Nations and the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board. If you live in a region that has a Renewable Resources Council, you can approach its members with any questions or concerns you have about fish and wildlife in your area.

Alsek RRC
Phone: 867-634-2524
Fax: 867-634-2527
Email: admin@alsekrrc.ca
Website: www.alsekrrc.ca
Box 2077, Haines Junction,
Yukon Y0B 1L0

Carcross/Tagish RRC
Phone: 867-399-4978
Fax: 867-399-4978
Email: carcrosstagishrrc@gmail.com
Box 70, Tagish, Yukon Y0B 1T0

Carmacks RRC
Phone: 867-863-6838
Fax: 867-863-6429
Email: carmacksrrc@northwestel.net
Box 122, Carmacks, Yukon Y0B 1C0

Dän Keyi RRC
Phone: 867-841-5820
Fax: 867-841-5821
Email: dankeyirrc@northwestel.net
Box 50, Burwash Landing,
Yukon Y0B 1V0

Dawson District RRC
Phone: 867-993-6976
Fax: 867-993-6093
Email: dawsonrrc@northwestel.net
Box 1380, Dawson City,
Yukon Y0B 1G0

Laberge RRC
Phone: 867-393-3940, call to fax
Email: labergerrc@northwestel.net
101 Copper Rd., Whitehorse,
Yukon Y1A 2Z7

Mayo District RRC
Phone: 867-996-2942
Fax: 867-996-2948
Email: mayorrc@northwestel.net
Box 249, Mayo,
Yukon Y0B 1M0

North Yukon RRC
Phone: 867-966-3034
Fax: 867-966-3036
Email: nyrrc@northwestel.net
Box 80, Old Crow,
Yukon Y0B 1N0

Selkirk RRC
Phone: 867-537-3938
Fax 867-537-3939
Email: selkirkrrc@northwestel.net
Box 32, Pelly Crossing,
Yukon Y0B 1P0

Teslin RRC
Phone: 867-390-2323
Fax: 867-390-2919
Email: teslinrrc@northwestel.net
Box 186, Teslin,
Yukon Y0A 1B0

Cooperative Wildlife Management

Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope)

The Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) was set up in 1988 under the *Inuvialuit Final Agreement*. The Council provides advice to federal and territorial Ministers, Inuvialuit co-management bodies and other groups on managing wildlife, habitat and harvesting on the Yukon North Slope. If you have any concerns about wildlife on the Yukon North Slope, you can contact the Council at:

Phone: 867-633-5476
Fax: 867-633-6900
Email: wmacns@web.ca
Website: www.wmacns.ca
Box 31539, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 6K8

Porcupine Caribou Management Board

The Porcupine Caribou Management Board was established in 1985 to ensure the collaborative management of the Porcupine caribou herd—one of the largest migratory caribou herds in North America—and protect and maintain its habitat in Canada. If you have any questions or concerns about the Porcupine caribou herd you can contact the Board at:

Phone: 867-633-4780
Fax: 867-393-3904
Email: dlemke@pcmb.ca
Website: www.pcmb.ca
Box 31723, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 6L3

Contact

Environment Yukon Offices

Whitehorse District
10 Burns Road
Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6
Phone: 867-667-5652
Toll free number: 1-800-661-0408,
ext. 5652, Fax: 867-393-6206
Email: environmentyukon@gov.yk.ca

Carmacks District
Box 132, Carmacks, Yukon Y0B 1C0
Phone: 867-863-2411

Dawson City District
Box 600 , Dawson City, Yukon Y0B 1G0
Phone: 867-993-5492

Old Crow District
Phone: 867-993-5492

Faro District
Box 98 , Faro, Yukon Y0B 1N0
Phone: 867-994-2862

Haines Junction District
Box 5429, Haines Junction,
Yukon Y0B 1L0
Phone: 867-634-2247

Mayo District
Box 40, Mayo, Yukon Y0B 1M0
Phone: 867-996-2202

Ross River District
Box 107, Ross River, Yukon Y0B 1S0
Phone: 867-969-2202

Teslin District
Box 97, Teslin, Yukon Y0A 1B0
Phone: 867-390-2685

Watson Lake District
Box 194, Watson Lake, Yukon Y0A 1C0
Phone: 867-536-3210

Yukon Fish and Game Association

509 Strickland Street
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2K5
Phone: 867-667-4263
Fax: 867-667-4237
Email: yfga@klondiker.com
Website: www.yukonfga.ca

First Nations offices

Council of Yukon First Nations
Phone: 867-393-9200 (Whitehorse)

Carcross/Tagish First Nation
Phone: 867-821-4251 (Carcross)

Champagne and Aishihik First Nations
Phone: 867-634-4200 (Haines Junction)
867-668-3627 (Whitehorse)
1-866-803-2697 (toll free)

First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun
Phone: 867-996-2265 (Mayo)

Kluane First Nation
Phone: 867-841-4274 (Burwash Landing)
1-866-558-5587 (toll free)

Kwanlin Dün First Nation
Phone: 867-633-7800 (Whitehorse)

Liard First Nation
Phone: 867-356-5200 (Watson Lake)

Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation
Phone: 867-863-5576 (Carmacks)

Ross River Dena Council
Phone: 867-969-2277 (Ross River)

Selkirk First Nation
Phone: 867-537-3331 (Pelly Crossing)

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council
Phone: 867-668-3613 (Whitehorse)

Teslin Tlingit Council
Phone: 867-390-2532 (Teslin)
867-456-4806 (Whitehorse)

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in
Phone: 867-993-7100 (Dawson City)
1-877-993-3400 (toll free)

Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation
Phone: 867-966-3261 (Old Crow)
867-633-2911 (Whitehorse)

White River First Nation
Phone: 867-862-7802 (Beaver Creek)
1-866-862-9736 (toll free)

Detailed Maps Sold at Environment Yukon offices in Whitehorse, Dawson and Haines Junction

Anyone can purchase ($10 + GST) standard topographic map sheets marked with Game Management Subzones, First Nation Category A and B settlement lands, Conservation Officer districts, etc. at Environment Yukon offices in Whitehorse (10 Burns Road), Dawson City and Haines Junction.

Maps can also be downloaded from the Environment Yukon map website at: www.env.gov.yk.ca/maps.

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Turn In Poachers & Polluters
1-800-661-0525

www.env.gov.yk.ca/tipp

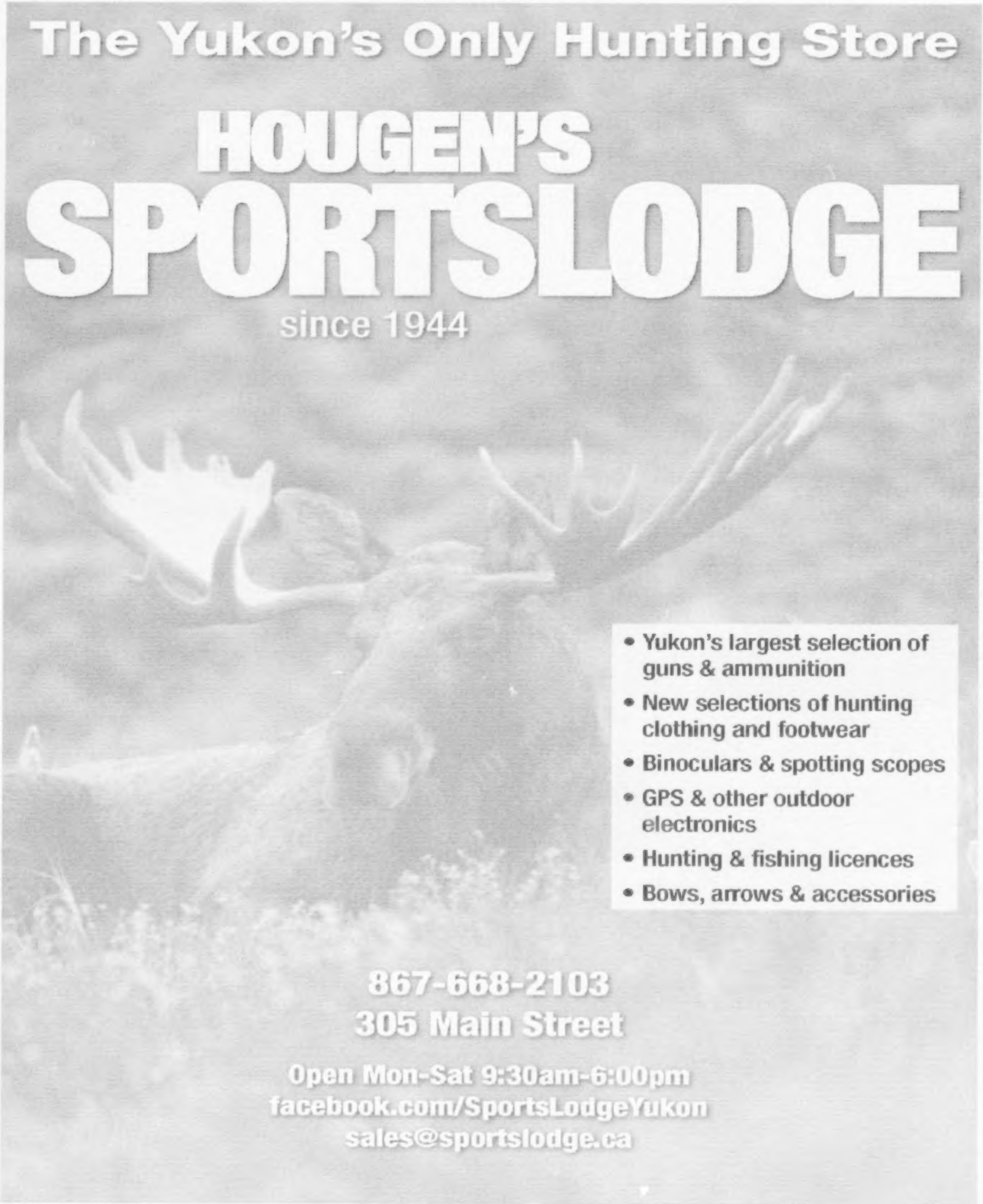
- **24-hour**
- **anonymous**
- **rewards available**

How can you help?

If you see someone violating fishing, hunting or environmental laws, don't confront them. That's a job for Conservation Officers. Watch carefully and record the facts:

date and time
location
number of people involved
description of the people
description of the vehicle and licence plate number
details of the violation or activity

Please record this information in the space provided on the back of your hunting licence. As soon as you can, call the TIPP line at **1-800-661-0525** or visit www.env.gov.yk.ca/TIPP and report the details of the offence. You'll be helping the wildlife conservation effort and you may be eligible for a cash reward.



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